AGRICULTURE 1954

(2)

American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia
August 4, 1954

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Tom Dudley, Chief
Division of Range Management
Amman, Jordan

FROM : W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

SUBJECT: Reimbursement for Ibrahim Al Batain.

Sometime in June, your Mission sent us a reimbursement voucher to cover per diem for Ibrahim Al Batain, Saudi Arabian representative, at the Amman conference in May with the request that Al Batain sign it. The signed voucher was returned to you via pouch but we have had no further word about it. Would you please check to see what has happened?

If the check can be sent within the next few weeks, it will be best to send it to me here in Jidda and I will see that it is given to Al Batain. If there is a longer delay, it should be sent to Ibrahim Al Batain, 75 - Sharia Haruun al Rashid, Heliopolis, Cairo, Egypt.

WJEdens:mep

0 agtec Cu (2)

American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia
July 14, 1954

(Sent via APO July 15, 1954)

Mr. Fred Barham
c/o American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

The Saudis have notified us that they do not wish to continue Point 4 work. I thought you would want to know this though you are now making preparations to come to Jidda. I am assuming you have received my letter of July 6th.

Mr. Corson is working on reassignment for personnel. With what we already know, there is little doubt but what our technicians can be placed if that be their desire.

You have directions in the July 6th letter relative to leaving our inventoried list of physical equipment with the Consul General. I should like for you to bring the portable typewriter with you. It was left with Hamilton when Nixon left to be picked up by you. I assume you have been using it.

Best wishes in clearing out and returning to Jidda.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens:bc

0 Optional (2)

American Embassy (USOM)
Box 3, APO 616, c/o PM
New York, New York
July 10, 1954

Dr. A. D. Ayers
Salinity Laboratory
Riverside, California

Dear Dr. Ayers:

The package of soil samples I sent to you has just been returned to me while I was trying to locate it. There is no explanation so I will attempt once more and send it first to Washington for fumigation.

We are now being given the same treatment you were when you were in Jidda. Hope we can go to work soon.

The package will probably come "surface" and may take three months or more.

Thanks for your interest.

Sincerely yours,

George P. Gibbs

GPGibbs:bc

American Embassy (USOM)
Box 3, APO 616, c/o PM
New York, New York
July 10, 1954

Dr. O. S. Aamodt
Research Center
Beltsville, Maryland

Dear Dr. Aamodt:

Under separate cover I am sending you some soil samples from Saudi Arabia for fumigation.

I would appreciate it very much if you would then forward this package to the SALINITY LABORATORY, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA.

Sincerely yours,

George P. Gibbs

GPGIbbs/bc

American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia
July 6, 1954

Mr. Fred Barham
c/o American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

This morning George Gibbs gave me a memo. in reply to some of the questions you raised in your letter of May 29. I believe the answers will be of some help to you.

The overall picture of the Mission has changed somewhat since July 1 has come and gone, and nothing has been determined relative to our work program.

Mr. Corson, Taylor and I have talked concerning your present situation. It is our opinion that you should return to Jidda as soon as you conveniently can, and remain here until further disposition of our employment can be determined. On the one hand there is reason to believe that Point 4 work will continue; on the other, there is reason to believe it will not continue. Therefore, I am requesting that you get your personal effects together and return to Jidda. Store all Mission property with the American Consul General. Make an inventory of such items, leaving a copy there and depositing one in the files here.

I suggest you tell your Saudi friends at Hofuf and others that you were stationed at Hofuf pending a working agreement whereby the Ministry of Agriculture and Point 4 would cooperate in an agricultural improvement program for the Hofuf Oasis, and it is the feeling of Point 4 that since your permission to work at Hofuf has not been approved officially by the Ministry of Agriculture, your services should be withdrawn until approval is granted. State that you hope the Ministry will soon approve Point 4 work at Hofuf and you will be returned.

In no way do we want to appear vindictive or that you are leaving in a spirit of retaliation. Simply say we want to cooperate and be of assistance in every way possible, but we feel we must have official consent and cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture in any work undertaken, and that you hope matters will be worked out whereby you can return and work with the good farmers of Hofuf.

I am sure you know quite well how to take care of a situation like this without suggestions. However, we want you to know our desires in handling a matter of this kind. You know the persons you will want to contact before coming to Jidda. Courtesy calls on the two Jiluwis and Adwan would be appropriate.

We shall be looking forward to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Enclosure -
Memo. from Gibbs
dated July 1, 1954.

WJEdens:o

(2)

American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia
June 28, 1954

Mr. Fred A. Barham
c/o American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

Bill Hazleton handed your letter of the 25th to me this morning. I note the pertinent questions you have raised.

As you know, all of us in Agriculture were transferred from FAS to the FOA/W payroll April 25, 1954. FOA did not assume the responsibility of forwarding individual checks to designated banks. All pay checks, including salary, are to be issued by the Embassy here at Jidda. You can continue to have your salary check forwarded by the Embassy to your bank in the U.S. upon request. You make this request by going to the Consulate and filling out an allotment request. Sign it and forward it to the Disbursing Officer here at the Embassy. I learned this the hard way, too.

At present I am receiving my salary check and forwarding it to the bank myself. In your case it would entail further delay in getting funds to your bank.

With regard to several payments being made in one check, Mr. Taylor states that such will be taken care of when the Embassy issues you your tax withholding statement. Only taxable funds will be included. The Embassy is now responsible for making all payments directly to you beginning April 25, 1954.

I hope you and Bill are enjoying the visit. This is the 28th and nothing has happened regarding program. Just as soon as possible I shall let you know any change that takes place.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:o

Ag Div

(1)

American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia
June 21, 1954

Mr. E. N. Holmgreen, Director
Office of Food and Agriculture
Foreign Operations Administration
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Holmgreen:

Enclosed you will find the Questionnaire on Technical Cooperation Program in Agriculture, USFOTO Circular XA-79, filled in to the extent possible at this time. This questionnaire pertains to programs where project agreements have been in effect a sufficient period of time to permit the evaluation of accomplishments.

To date there is no Technical Cooperation Program of Agriculture in Saudi Arabia. The Ministry of Agriculture has not signed one project agreement. Under the Community Development Project Agreement signed by the Saudi Arabian Government in December 1952, no work plan or procedure has been agreed to whereby a program could be started in one or both of the two selected community areas.

Personnel thus far has been used to make studies of agriculture in the various farming areas of the Kingdom and cooperate with several individual farmers in three oases in testing a few seeds, conserving green feed and changing irrigation practices. There is just so much we can afford to do under our own steam without Ministry participation.

We hope to be able to give a more favorable report next time.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Enclosure -
Questionnaire, as above

(AIRGRAM form recd. from Wash. - filled in and returned to FOA/W)

WJEdens:o

AIRGRAM

FOREIGN OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION

Action Edens
Rec'd 6/20/54 (1)
2 pm

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

DATE SENT Jun 10, 1954

DATE REC'D.

FROM · Washington

SUBJECT · Questionnaire on Technical Cooperation Programs in Agriculture

REFERENCE ·

(Check one before each address)

DISTRIBUTION
FOOD
AFPAK
AFR
ARAB
BLACK
DDO
EJ
EXSEC
INDIA
IRAN
ISR
MPR
NRSR
OFE
PAK
SPUB

ACTION	INFO.	ADDRESS AND SERIAL NUMBER
X		USFOTO CIRCULAR X A-79
X		USFOTO CIRC F A-118

TOKYO FOATO A-159
SEOUL FOATO A-168

Following is a questionnaire to obtain a quick over-all picture of achievements in the field under technical cooperation programs in agriculture for general agency information. All questions relate to increases or improvements resulting from these programs.

The questionnaire is designed to save as much of your time as possible; please use whatever information you and your staff have readily at hand and in mind rather than making the questionnaire a research project. Where specific data are not available, use best estimates and so indicate. Keep all answers brief.

Return questionnaire without fail by June 25.

Suspense June 22.

CABLE ROOM: Send to following as USFOTO CIRC X A-79

CIRC F A-118

FOA22255R

10	Asuncion	3	Addis Ababa	3	BANGKOK
3	Bogota	4	Amman	4	DJAKARTA
3	Ciudad Trijillo	5	Baghdad	10	MANILA
6	Guatemala City	6	Beirut	4	SAIGON
3	Havana	8	Cairo	6	TAIPEI
5	La Paz	3	Jidda		
5	Lima	3	Kabul		
4	Managua	5	Karachi		
5	Mexico City	3	Katmandu		
10	PanamaCity	5	Monrovia		
7	Port Au Prince	4	New Delhi	6	TOKYO FOATO A-159
3	Quito	10	Tehran	6	SEOUL FOATO A-168
10	Rio de Janeiro	5	Tel Aviv		
4	San Jose	5	Tripoli		
3	San Salvador				
5	Santiago & Tegucigalpa				

OTHER AGENCY
AGRI
CIA
STATE

AUTHORIZING OFFICER	DRAFTED BY	OFFICE	PHONE NO.	DATE
E. N. Holmgreen, S/FOOD	FLErhardt/LHNorton	S/FOOD	2478 3101	5-28-54

FOA AND OTHER CLEARANCES
Caldwell
Roseman
Moyer
SPaul
NHardesty

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
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FOA AND OTHER CLEARANCES

Questionnaire filled out & returned to FOA/W, with covering letter 6/21/54.

Irl Carson

FOA-51 (8-53)

(Do not type below this line)

Livestock

1. What is total number of livestock in country by kinds:
   Cattle 165,117 ; Sheep 3,571,000
   Goats: 1,900,000 ..... Camels: 265,191 Donkeys: 22,490
   (Others)
   (a) Number vaccinated or tested for disease control.

   Cattle _____ ; Sheep _____

   ..... _____
   (Others)
   (b) Number treated for insects and parasites
   Cattle _____ ; Sheep _____

   (c) Number imported to improve stock
   Bulls _____ ; heifers _____ ; rams _____ ; ewes _____

   ..... _____
   (Others)
   (d) Number bred by artificial insemination
   Cattle _____ ; others _____

   (e) Number of baby chicks shipped in from U. S. _____

Crop Practices

1. What improved seeds have been introduced?

   (a) Tomatoes (b) watermelons (c) Canteloupes, Cucumber, Pepper, Okra

   (d) On how many acres are they now being used? Small demonstration in 10 farms
   Percentage of total crop area _____

   (e) On how many acres are they now being used by individual crop:

   ..... _____ ; ..... _____
   (Crop) (Crop)

   ..... _____
   (Crop)

2. What farm implements have been improved? _____
   How many such implements are now used? _____

3. What improved methods of cultivation have been put into practice? _____

QUESTIONNAIRE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS IN AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Production

1. State increase in annual agricultural production on country-wide basis for most recent crop year (195__ - 5__) compared to average year (19__ - 19__) before technical cooperation programs began:

   (a) Percentage increase for major crops

   . . . . . _____
   (Crop)

   . . . . . _____
   (Crop)

   (b) Unit (tons, bushels, etc.) increases

   . . . . . from _____ (bushels, tons) to _____
   (Crop)

   . . . . . from _____ (bushels, tons) to _____
   (Crop)

   (c) Give outstanding examples of increases in acre or hectare yields by individual farmers:

   . . . . . from _____ (bushels, tons) to _____
   (Crop)

   . . . . . from _____ (bushels, tons) to _____
   (Crop)

2. How has increased agricultural production affected per capita consumption of food?

   Calories prewar _____; Calories 195__ _____

3. What new crops have been introduced?

   (a) _____ (b) _____ (c) _____

   (d) What has been effect on food consumption level? _____

   _____

   (e) What has been effect on income of country? _____

   _____

4. Has more fertilizer been used? _____ What kinds? _____

_____

(a) On how many acres: . . . . . _____
(Crop)

. . . . . _____; . . . . . _____
(Crop) (Crop)

(b) Percentage increase in yield for each . . . . . _____
(Crop)

. . . . . _____; . . . . . _____
(Crop) (Crop)

(c) Illustrative increase in acre or hectare yields by individual farmers

. . . . . from _____(bushels, tons) to _____
(Crop)

. . . . . .from _____ (bushels, tons) to _____

5. Have insecticides been introduced? _____ What kinds? _____

_____

(a) On how many acres: . . . . . _____; . . . . . .
(Crop) (Crop)

_____; . . . . . _____
(Crop)

(b) Percentage increase in yield for each: . . . . . _____
(Crop)

. . . . . _____; . . . . . _____
(Crop) (Crop)

(c) Illustrative increases in acre or hectare yields by individual farmers

. . . . . from _____ (bushels, tons) to _____
(Crop)

. . . . . from _____ (bushels, tons) to _____

Water Projects

1. Number of water use projects: Total _____; dams _____; tube wells dug and digging 14 Experiments; irrigation projects _____

(a) Acres added to cultivation by these projects _____

(b) Regularly cultivated acres whose returns have been increased _____

(c) Additional crop production resulting . . . . . _____
(Crop)

. . . . . _____; . . . . . _____
(Crop) (Crop)

Crop Storage: What types of project to increase crop storage have been introduced?

_____

Credit Has credit program been established? _____

Marketing: How many projects have been established for grading, processing and marketing? _____. Specify nature: _____

_____

Extension Services

1. Has an Extension Service been established or did one already exist? _____

_____

2. What basic improvements have been made in existing extension services?

_____

_____

_____

3. How many local extension agents does Service include? _____

4. How many training courses have been held for local extension workers? _____

5. How many agents have been trained under cooperative program? _____

6. Are extension information materials and training in information techniques provided to local agents? _____

7. How many farm bulletins have been distributed to farmers? _____

List major subjects: _____

_____

Extension Services (Continued)

8. In 1953 how many demonstrations were conducted by extension agents? _____
   (a) Estimated number of farmers reached through demonstrations? _____
   (b) Estimated number of visits by agents to individual farms? _____

Rural Youth Clubs

1. Did rural youth club or clubs exist at beginning of program? _____

2. What is number of new clubs established? _____
   Estimated total membership _____

3. List major project activities of the club or clubs: _____

_____

_____

Schools: Number of vocational schools in agriculture opened _____; number improved _____

Number of agricultural colleges opened _____; number improved _____

Demonstration Farms: How many have been established? _____

Technicians

1. Number of U. S. agriculture technicians in field as of June 1? 6

   (a) Number of local technicians trained since program began _____

   (b) Number of local technicians given added training _____

   (c) Number of officials and other leaders in agriculture brought to U. S. under training program 3

Projects Completed: Number of cooperative projects in agriculture completed and transferred to local authorities _____

Persons Reached: How many persons have been reached by the agriculture program? _____

STASSEN

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 23, 1954

Mr. Rex H. McAnelly
Box 1239, Aramco
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Rex:

This has reference to your letter of May 2. I was wondering when the Arabs would take over and it appears that they are doing it prematurely.

I recall our conversation relative to Point 4 work here in Saudi Arabia. Our program is getting off to a slow start. When the Department of Agriculture was a part of the Ministry of Finance, it was doing practically nothing. Since it has been elevated to a Ministry, the new Minister is cautious and, of course, he does not have a budget as yet. When some of the overall Government problems have been solved, I believe things will begin to pick up and work will get under way.

For the coming year my proposed budget (1954-55) calls for several new men - mostly for extension work. It is my opinion you would fit well into work plans we have discussed with the Minister, and I should be glad to see you continue here in Saudi Arabia. At the present we are waiting for project agreement signatures. That depends on when the Saudis get their budget allocations made. When this has been done I should be glad to communicate with you further concerning this matter.

Keep me informed relative to your situation, and I plan to get in touch with you when the above matters have been worked out. Best wishes to both of you.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:e

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(2)

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 31, 1954

Mr. Tom I. Dudley
Chief, Range Resources Development
USA Operations Mission to Jordan
Amman, Jordan

Dear Tom:

Thank you for your letter of May 19th and the enclosed copies of the Waterspreading Manual. The Department is to be complimented on the publication of this Manual, for I am sure it will be of much information and service to Arabic-speaking technicians and administrators.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation for the privilege of attending the fine conference arranged by Mr. French and his associates. It was quite practical, and I feel confident everyone went away feeling that he had profited much by being in attendance.

You have my best wishes in your new undertaking. I feel confident the good work will continue.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:o

UNCLASSIFIED

397

May 27, 1954

TO: American ConGen, Dhahran.

For Fred Barham from Taylor.

Rountree plans arrive Dhahran June 2. Meet and show him Qatif-Dammam and Hofuf areas.

WADSWORTH

TFTaylor
WJEdens:o

UNCLASSIFIED

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 25, 1954

Mr. O. L. Mimms, Chief
Agricultural Technical Assistance Division
Foreign Operations Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mimms:

Careful attention has been given to your airgram, USFOTO A-145, concerning Ezzat Husmi El Aly, TA 470-8, Entomology. The matter has been discussed at some length with the Chief of Agriculture. He in turn has discussed the matter with representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture in Saudi Arabia. It seems that Mr. Aly sent a copy of the letter which he has written to Mr. Dill, directly to the Minister of Agriculture, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan, in Riyadh. During the time we were discussing in Jidda the problem as presented in your airgram, it seems that the Minister of Agriculture was discussing the matter with our Director, Mr. Corson, who has been in Riyadh for the past several weeks. We have just received the transmittal of a letter from the Minister of Agriculture through Mr. Corson, which we are enclosing for your general information. We are also enclosing a copy of a memorandum from Dr. Edens in which he has suggested certain changes in training emphasis.

Due to the unpredictable delays in transmission of letters, we have as of this date cabled you setting forth summarized recommendations concerning this case. It is unfortunate that Mr. Aly was placed on a graduate level training basis. However, it is felt if his training program can be changed to one which coincides with the suggestions of Dr. Edens, our Chief of Agriculture, that the experience thus far will be extremely profitable in the final analysis. It is strongly recommended that his training location be changed because of the psychological factors involved and the necessity for building up the confidence and general well-being of this trainee. It would be disastrous to materially shorten the training period for Mr. Aly because of the prospect of a derogatory attitude that he might acquire through such action that would be difficult to deal with as far as our Mission is concerned upon his return. In discussing his case with the officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, we are reasonably assured of strong support in the way of disciplinary action in the future in the event Mr. Aly's training program is changed in accordance with our recommendations and any difficulty that may arise with him in following the new schedule. We shall appreciate your keeping us informed as to the progress being made in making these adjustments.

We regret very much that this case requires special attention and has caused unanticipated difficulties. You may be assured of our full co-operation in supporting any action that may be necessary to make this training program an ultimate success.

Yours very sincerely,

Robert D. Dolley
Chief, Education Division

Enclosures - 2
As above

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION
USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

MEMORANDUM

May 20, 1954

TO: Dr. R. D. Dolley, Chief, Education Division

FROM: Dr. W. J. Edens, Chief, Agriculture Division

SUBJECT: El Ali

This has reference to your communication of yesterday about Izzat Husni El Ali and the difficulty he seems to be having in his training program. It appears that his difficulty is primarily in classroom work.

It is my suggestion that Mr. El Ali be relieved of formal classroom work, except when he thinks he can profit by it, and that the following procedure be used:

1. Place him in the entomology laboratory under the personal direction of an instructor or lab. assistant where he can be instructed and guided in the collection and identification of insects. This would require little supervision. He needs to develop confidence in himself and proficiency in this area.

2. Following, or along with identification, arrange work for Mr. El Ali on the college farms where he will be required to learn how to determine kinds of spray materials needed under given conditions, and how to mix and apply same.

3. Have him accompany an extension entomologist for a week or two so that he may observe extension procedures and methods relative to insect control.

4. Spend some time in quarantine work at some convenient port.

It might be desirable to change Mr. El Ali to another institution where fruits and vegetables are more widely grown; however, I see no reason why the above suggested training program cannot be administered where he is now located. The Agricultural Ministry is anxious for Mr. El Ali to return to his country with definite knowledge and skills that can be applied in the budding agricultural program.

WJEdens:o

By Sen

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 20, 1954

Mr. Frank Brookshier
Manager, Al Kharj Farms
Aramco - Box 1239
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Frank:

Your letter of March 22 concerning the chicks was received last week. Some weeks ago we gave up the idea of placing some chicks this year due to slowness of getting agreements worked out.

We do appreciate your willingness to let us have the 500. Another year should see more activity along this line.

How are things going with you? And how is McAteer coming along with the aluminum foil project? I am interested in knowing results. I am sorry we were not in a position to work with you.

Let me hear from you again. As time goes on it may be that we can work together on some common undertakings.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:o

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

UNCLASSIFIED

CHARGE: Classification Control: USUFO 463

DATE: May 19, 1952

TO: TOA/W.

From Taylor.

USFOTO 288. Ministry of Agriculture sent Ibrahim Mohamed Abu Boutain, counterpart to our Mr. Schaen, to Aswan to represent Ministry first week water spreading conference and take training that followed. Strongly urged Ministry to send trainee advising perdiem would be paid. Trainee not nominated prior departure Schaen; therefore unable request security clearance. Trainee reported Aswan Conference second day. Advise if trainee can yet be made eligible for per diem reimbursement by forwarding biographic Form 582 when Boutain returns from training.

CORSON

TTaylor
WJMcGenn:o

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

CHARGE:

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

Control: TOUSFO 464

DATE: May 19, 1954

TO: FOA/W.

From Taylor.

Forward contact copy Oklahoma A&M College contract in Ethiopia.

CORSON

TTaylor
WJEdens:o

Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

UNCLASSIFIED

CHARGE: Classification Control: USFOTO 459

DATE: May 17, 1954

TO: FOA/W.

From Taylor.

USFOTO 349. Commercial fertilizer statistics unavailable. Estimate less than fifty tons imported annually.

CORSON

TFTaylor:
WJFdens:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 17, 1954

Mr. Fred A. Barham
American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

Your letter of May 2d came a few days ago and we are glad to know you are making progress. The fresh vegetables you mentioned are tempting enough to precipitate a trip to Hofuf, so don't be surprised to see me coming.

I am interested in getting the Hofuf project agreement signed before coming to those parts again. Something will have to give shortly, for time is running out. The delay does seem so unnecessary. However, many things important in government other than Point IV are up for consideration. The Minister of Agriculture has been in Riyadh for almost three months. As you know, Ramadan is on and the pilgrimage time will soon be here.

Mr. Taylor forwarded a cable yesterday authorizing the purchase of a refrigerator. I am sure you are in much need of it. Taylor informed me that he is going to Dhahran shortly to arrange more adequately for housing and for facilities to take care of vehicle needs. When things clear up a bit relative to agreements, I am going to push for a new pickup - the kind you want.

Enclosed you will find copy of an Airgram requesting data for a biographic register. There seems to be a hurry for this. As FOA/Washington sent only one form for each person, and this one form must be returned to Washington, please do not write on it other than the last line - signature and date. If you will sign the form - then give all information on another sheet and return it to me as soon as you can, I will have this information typed on the signed copy, having additional copies made at the same time.

I am sure it is very encouraging to see farmers begin to note any improved practice (water management) that you may suggest or point out. It will be interesting to know the results of irrigating every three to five days, instead of twice each day.

I forwarded a copy of another bulletin by Mr. Nixon to Mr. Hassuneh for any suggested change he might make. Please see that he gets this back to me as soon as convenient. Any comments by you will be appreciated. I sent the manuscript by Bohan Husseini some three weeks ago.

Let us hear from you again.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

P.S. Note check No. 3480 for $40.38 herewith enclosed.

ad Gen.

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 12, 1954

PERSONAL

Mr. Paul F. Taggart
Chief, Iraq-Saudi Arabia-Lebanon-Syria Division
Near East, South Asia and Africa Operations
Foreign Operations Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Paul:

I am attaching for your information copy of a memorandum dated May 1, 1954, prepared by T. O. Parker, our Animal Husbandryman, addressed to Dr. Edens, Chief of our Agriculture Division, covering a conversation which Messrs. Parker and Barham, our Extension Specialist in Al Hasa Province, had with Mr. Guy Hamilton, Agricultural Consultant of Aramco.

Mr. Hamilton's comments regarding Point IV are quite interesting, although knowing him as I do, I do not attach much importance to his feelings about our objectives here. I could comment at length on Mr. Hamilton's remarks, and could easily prove the fallacy of his statements and the errors in his thinking. The significant part, however, is the fact that a consultant of Aramco feels as violently as he does against Point IV and the possibility of his voicing such opinions to people with whom he might come in contact.

I have not discussed this matter with any of the Aramco people here as I question the advisability of establishing an issue which might prove embarrassing and without point.

Sincerely,

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission
to Saudi Arabia

no enclosure attached
to file

Enclosure -
Memo., as above

HJCorson:o

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 10, 1954

Mr. E. N. Holmgreen
Director, Office of Food and Agriculture
Foreign Operations Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Holmgreen:

We should be glad to receive 25 to 50 copies of the publications entitled "4-H Club Work in the United States of America " and "Youth Can Help Increase Productivity".

We do not have rural youth organizations as yet, but it is believed that this information can be used to good advantage among agencies and adult farmers.

Sincerely,

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission
to Saudi Arabia

WJEdens:mep

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

CHARGE:

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

Control:

DATE: May 5, 1954

TO: I. P. Thomsen
Skagen, Denmark

Quote prices and analysis Fish Meal FOB Jidda, Saudi Arabia.

Harland J. Corson, Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

HJCorson
TOParker:o

Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

Ag Gen.

(1)

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

May 1, 1954

Mr. J. O. Hamilton
Agricultural Consultant
Aramco
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Guy:

Enclosed herewith please note the preliminary draft of a proposed bulletin on date culture by Mr. Nixon. Roy is anxious for several to read the manuscript and make comments, notations, and suggestions.

When requesting Roy to write this bulletin, it was from the viewpoint of having an elementary treatise on date culture in Saudi Arabia that could be printed in Arabic and used by date farmers, and in training programs. Therefore, if you will read it and let me have your comments and suggestions, it will be appreciated. This is being requested of several others. When all comments are in, I shall forward the same to Roy for any changes he may wish to make in the manuscript.

Best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Enclosure

WJEdens:mep

No enclosure turned into file Room
5/2 rm

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

April 29, 1954

Mr. Fred Barham
American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

Your April report was received. I am glad you and Mr. Parker had the opportunity to visit and study problems together.

I am concerned about your living quarters being improved. Mr. Taylor stated this morning that he would forward authorization to you to purchase a refrigerator (kerosene). Further steps can be taken when a project agreement has been signed.

No definite information is known here when the Council of Ministers will adjourn, and when project agreements will be signed. It seems a matter of standing by until the Ministry takes action. When the project agreement for Hofuf is signed, Mr. Taylor will come over and complete all arrangements for living quarters and fixtures.

Enclosed you will find allowance check No. 3408 in the amount of $40.38. From this time on I shall drop the checks in an envelope addressed to you at the Consulate.

Don't wait for monthly reports. Write at any time, and give my regards to the Consulate staff.

Sincerely,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Encl.
WJEdens:o

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

UNCLASSIFIED

CHARGE: Classification Control: 15

TO: Amlembassy, Amman DATE: April 28, 1954

FROM: TAYLOR, Acting

Edens, Chief Agriculturist, and Schwan, Desert Range Conservationist, will arrive for conference via Saudi Airlines, May 1. Doubtful about Saudi representative attending.

WADSWORTH

TFTaylor, Acting
WEdens/erm

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

Translation May 2, 1954

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Ministry of Agriculture
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

No. 510
23/8/1373 (April 26, 1954)

Mr. Harland J. Corson
Director, U.S.A.O.M.
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

With reference to your letter of April 12, 1954, enclosed with the Liaison Office's letter No. 147/2/13 of 16/8/73 (April 19, 1954) regarding the insect control unit which you pointed out that your mission is ready to bring to the Kingdom for work, we would like to inform you that this subject is under consideration and we will advise you of the result in due course.

/S/ Sultan
Minister of Agriculture

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

American Embassy - Jidda

April 12, 1954

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul-Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Your Highness:

With the development of Agriculture in Saudi Arabia, it is important that all aspects of its development be considered. Our technicians, while traveling in Saudi Arabia, have observed that damage by insects to crops for both human and livestock consumption amounts to a very high percentage of the total potential yield. As crops are developed and cultivated acreages increased, insect pests tend to thrive and increase and become an even greater problem, as has been found to be true at El Kharj and other important cultivated areas. We believe that every consideration should be given to encourage and develop insect control methods. In this connection the Point 4 Regional Insect Control Program has offered to Saudi Arabia for a limited time its facilities and technicians in supplying a demonstration control unit.

Since your growing season is so advanced, it is necessary that you give your immediate consideration to this offer of assistance. For such a unit to move its personnel, equipment and insecticides into Saudi Arabia in time to be effective, they inform us that they must have your approval for insect control demonstrations not later than April 18.

Regional Insect Control, through the USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia, proposes to supply to your Government two planes, two pilots, an Entomologist and available insecticides sufficient to carry on limited aerial demonstrations of insect control. It would be necessary for the Saudi Arabian Government to furnish gasoline, oil and landing facilities for the planes, as well as board and room for the three American personnel attached to the unit. It is estimated that such a unit may have to operate for a period of nearly sixty days applying various insecticide sprays at intervals determined by the development of the insects themselves, the various crops involved and weather conditions. Such an operation at El Kharj and nearby areas should not cost your Government more than $50 a day for the period of time stationed in Saudi Arabia.

The program suggested could be carried on to advantage at El Kharj where you have a considerable acreage of crops subject to insect damage,

as well as facilities to service the spray planes, and to house and feed the personnel. The limited number of workers which would be necessary for loading planes could probably be provided from the group of regular workers on the farm. To locate at El Kharj would place the unit within a working radius of Riyadh and nearby wadis where insect pests may be a disturbing factor to crop production. It is also possible that demonstration plots would be considered worthwhile at Hofuf and at the Royal farm in Dammam.

If you think well of the above suggested program of insect spraying, I should appreciate an immediate reply of approval so that arrangements can be made to take advantage of the limited time we now have left.

Please accept my respects.

Sincerely yours,

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission
to Saudi Arabia

WJEdens:o

File copy

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

April 25, 1954

Secura Incubator Co. Ltd.
Carlisle
England

Gentlemen:

This has reference to your letter of April 9, 1954, concerning the sale of your incubators. Our need for incubators is very limited at present, and orders were made months ago. However, we did appreciate receiving your catalogues and our interest in this matter may turn your way in the future.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:o

Ag Gen

(1)

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

April 18, 1954

Mr. Ahmed Badkook
Ministry of Agriculture
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Dear Mr. Badkook:

In accordance with your request through our Liaison Office, I am enclosing the agenda of the Amman meeting so you can forward the same to H.R.H. Prince Sultan, who desires further information pertaining to the Conference.

I hope it will be possible for your Ministry to send Mr. Al Betein to Amman.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Enclosure -
Agenda

Not handed file room
ern

WJEdens:

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

April 14, 1954

Mr. Harold R. Stevens, Director
USA Operations Mission to Egypt
American Embassy
Cairo, Egypt

Dear Mr. Stevens:

This has reference to your letter of March 24 addressed to Mr. Corson relative to setting up a group in Egypt to review and publish FAO and FOA publications in the Arabic language. This letter arrived just as Mr. Corson was leaving for Riyadh, and not knowing how long he would be away, he requested that I reply to your communication.

Appropriate publications in the native language should be of much value and I think this should be done by the Missions whenever it can be justified. A cooperative undertaking with FAO should be desirable provided each agency bears its proportionate part of all costs on the basis of total volume of matter published. Also, possibly some thought should be given by each Mission to having such publications printed in local plants, particularly where costs are reasonable.

A very modern publishing establishment has been built recently here in Jidda. It is equipped to print in both Arabic and English. We have been giving some thought to encouraging the various Ministries to budget funds for publications to be used in the various education and extension type programs. It is my opinion that we should pursue efforts in this manner for the present. However, we should be glad to know the reaction you obtained when sounding out FOA/W.

Your letter regarding this matter is appreciated, and Mr. Corson may wish to write you further upon his return.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:c

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of Americ

OUTGOING

Foa

CHARGE: UNCLASSIFIED Classification Control:

TO: American ConGen, Dhahran DATE: April 13, 1954

From Corson.

Asmodt, Ayers of USDA and Gibbs arriving Dhahran from Jidda April 19. Shall appreciate use of guest room. For Barham: Please meet and accompany them.

WADSWORTH

HJCorson
WJDiens:c

UNCLASSIFIED Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

April 10, 1954

Mr. Tony Francois, Acting Director
Forestry Division
Food and Agriculture Organization
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
Rome, Italy

Reference: Fo:PC

Dear Mr. Francois:

Thank you for your letter of March 18, inviting me to attend the technical meeting on forest grazing in Rome. I am sorry that it was impossible for me to attend. If FAO publishes a report on the meeting, and especially on the recommendations and conclusions, I shall appreciate it very much if you will send me a copy. Also, mimeographed copies of any additional working papers will be most welcome.

Sincerely yours,

H. E. Schwan
Desert Range Conservationist
USOM, Saudi Arabia

HESchwan:o

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

April 3, 1954

Your Highness:

This has further reference to the subject of my March 30 letter to you.

Please note the tentative time schedule of activities for the visiting team for Range Management and Water Spreading. It may be necessary to alter this schedule, depending on arrival of team and any changes in their plans.

Assuring you of our desire to cooperate in all matters, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Attachment

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

WJEdens/pa

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

MEMORANDUM March 31, 1954

TO : Dr. M. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

FROM: H. E. Schwan
Desert Range Conservationist

RE : Visit of U.S. Team for Range Management and Water Spreading.

Following is the time schedule for the visit of Messrs. Aamodt, Ayers and Larson:

April 5-M	Visitors arrive, arrange lodging, meals, etc.
6-T	Conferences, visit Embassy.and Ministry of Agriculture.
7-W	Conferences.
8-T	One day-Medina Road, Kilo 10, Wadi Fatima
9-	Friday
10-S	Wadi Khulais
11-S	Wadi Khulais
12-M	Wadi Khulais
13-T	Open (Load power wagon, get gasoline)
14-W	Leave for Taif, meet FOA offices, 7:30 A.M.
15-T	Taif (Agr lands nearby, Wadi Waj, Wadi Liiya, etc.
16-F	Taif (To Dar al Baida, Wadi N'Moor)
17-S	Taif (To Upper Wadi Waj, Hemma Tallhat, Hemma Sayaed)
18-S	Taif (To plain of Al Aire to see desert range)
19-M	Return to Jidda.
20-T)	
21-W)	- Open
22-T)	
23-	Friday
24-S	Visitors depart.

Initial passenger loading for Taif trip:

Sta. Wagon 1, Schwan, soldier, Aamodt, Gibbs.
Sta. Wagon 2, Edens, Ayers, Al Batein
Power Wagon, Driver, cook, asst. cook
Sta. Wagon 3, Rountree, Koje, Larson.

Bedrolls should be carried by each person in the same Station Wagon in which he is riding.

Each individual will be responsible for his own drinking water to be taken on each field trip.

HESchwan/pa

A Tentative Five-Year Plan

for

Agriculture in Saudi Arabia

1954 - 1958

Introduction

Agriculture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is very old, yet it was only a few years ago that the Saudi Government undertook the establishment of a Department of Agriculture in the Ministry of Finance. This year (1954), the Department was elevated to the Ministry of Agriculture, and agriculture now bids fair to receive the attention it has so long deserved.

The new Ministry is moving out on an immediate and farsighted program. It is planning an agricultural improvement program for a five-year period. The following are statements and comments concerning the various phases of the plan. This plan is tentative and lends itself to much flexibility. It is not posed as the only plan to follow. Should it, or any part of it, be adopted, changes to meet unforeseen and new problems are inevitable.

Objectives

Primary Objective

Raise the rural standard of living and cause agriculture to become a more important part of the Saudi Arabian economy.

Secondary Objectives

1. Double agricultural production by using improved farm practices, and double income per farm worker.

2. Establish and conduct agricultural experiment stations to determine improved farm practices.

3. Establish and conduct a strong agricultural extension service throughout the Kingdom to teach the farmers improved farm practices.

4. Promote the establishment of agricultural schools for rural youth and adults.

5. Establish and conduct a sound conservation program throughout the Kingdom in forestry, range management, soil management, and wildlife.

6. Establish a farm credit system to supply farmers with funds at a reasonable cost for conducting their businesses.

7. Promote and assist in planning community improvement and development programs.

8. Assist farmers in the development of adequate market outlets for surplus products.

9. Establish an Agricultural Statistical Service for assembling and distributing information pertaining to production and marketing of agricultural products.

10. Encourage and assist farmers in the development and utilization of water resources.

11. Cooperate with local and central government in building farm-to-market highways.

12. Maintain a Ministry of Agriculture on a soundly organized basis, and staffed by efficient personnel in their chosen fields of work.

FIRST YEAR - 1954

A. General

1. Organize the Ministry and carefully select key personnel for work most urgently needed.

2. Select the more important farming areas in the Kingdom which will become the centers for starting agricultural improvement programs, and for disseminating improved farm practices to adjoining areas.

3. Select the number of areas in which improvement programs will be initiated this year and project this selection until all areas are included. Make a brief survey of each of these areas to determine the type of improvement program that should be attempted. This survey should be made by a team consisting of a soils scientist, agronomist, animal husbandman, and irrigation engineer, and it should require only a few days in each locality.

Determine the work that will be started in these surveyed areas for 1954. It will be necessary to enumerate the personnel,

materials, supplies and equipment that will be required this year. Begin procuring these items and set up a target date for getting the work under way.

The following are suggestions and comments in conformity with an outline of the Five-Year Plan previously submitted.

B. Experiment Station Service

1. Animal Husbandry

a, b, c. Build facilities for a livestock station near Jidda and stock it with sheep, goats, cows and poultry appropriate for experimental purposes, disseminate purebred sires from this station to sub-stations and on to farmers. This service should be continued.

d. As quickly as possible, the station should equip itself to produce and disseminate baby chicks to farmers and commercial poultry producers. There is much opportunity for producing poultry to be used by the farmers and for sale in the market-place.

e. Construct experimental silos at appropriate places to determine the possibilities of preserving much forage that is going to waste and stimulating better feeding practices.

2. Agronomy

a. Establish a crop experiment station in each of two localities selected for agricultural improvement programs, provided they are in areas sufficiently different enough to warrant two stations.

b. Begin immediately the testing of seeds and plants to discover the best ones to recommend to the farmers. The Ministry should not recommend seeds to farmers until the Ministry knows, by trial, that the seeds are sufficiently superior in production quality to the seeds farmers are now using. Ways and means of getting superior seeds into the hands of farmers should be provided by the Ministry. A sufficient number of farmers should be encouraged to produce the better varieties of seeds for sale to neighbors and in the central marketplace.

c. Begin soil surveys in areas selected for improvement programs in 1954 to determine irrigation qualities, plant food deficiencies, crop adaptation, and how the soil may be made more productive.

3. Horticulture

a. Continue work at Kilo 10 Experiment Station, but reevaluate objectives and make the station more functional to farmers. Begin immediately the correction of soil deficiencies.

b. Experimental work in horticulture should be initiated at the area crop experiment stations when they have been established. Both seed and plant stock improvements should be emphasized.

c. Organize ways and means for providing farmers and others with seeds and stocks of superior production qualities.

4. Agricultural Engineering

a. Farm equipment now used by farmers is about the same as it was centuries ago. There is a demand for bringing about greater production efficiency on fams by using more modern equipment suited to the needs of the farmers. A careful study should be made in severalimportant farming areas to determine the feasibility of using certain farm equipment.

b. Select two communities where power equipment, or improved hand equipment appears to be practical and subsidize the ownership of certain equipment by a few individuals to be used for custom use. This should be closely supervised to determine the advisability of recommending the purchase and use of such equipment by farmers.

c. Many farmers need assistance in the maintenance of their pumps. The present service should be strengthened and made reasonable in the cost to farmers.

C. Irrigation and Land Drainage Service

a. Begin improvement of drainage and irrigation at Hofuf. This is the largest oasis in Saudi Arabia and supports a large population. Study to this end should begin immediately.

b. Complete drainage study at Qatif, and begin experimental work.

c. With the possibility of rebuilding the dam at Abha, studies and plans for using the increased water supply should be undertaken.

D. Conservation Service

, Begin exploring range and forest areas to determine existing conditions and the ways and means of solving present conservation problems.

Visit nearby countries with comparable environments to study work that has been successful and unsuccessful. Start building a reference library of research on range and forest lands in low rainfall areas.

a. Select tracts of land in important grazing areas and fence them for observation and experimental purposes to determine how to improve vegetation for grazing purposes, and the introduction of forage plants grown in other countries under similar conditions.

E. Agricultural Economics Service

a. Agricultural data in Saudi Arabia are very scarce. Establish a fact gathering service relative to crop and livestock production, marketing and farm organization and operation. These data are indispensable to the Ministry personnel, as well as farmers, for making plans and estimating costs. There are few facts now assembled on which to base cost estimates.

b. Survey the agriculture of Saudi Arabia and construct a chart showing important farming areas, major products therein, the major grazing areas, and other pertinent information.

c. Many worthwhile marketing activities could be undertaken. Marketing livestock by weight and grade usually gives the farmer a higher income from the animals sold. In fact, this method of marketing has proven successful wherever tried.

F. Entomology and Plant Protection

a. Insects cause farmers heavy losses each year. The Ministry should employ an entomologist immediately and begin a study of the injurious insects, as well as begin applying control measures.

b. Plant diseases also cause much damage to farm crops, and their identification and extent of infestation should be determined as soon as possible.

c. The field control for insects and diseases should be undertaken cooperatively with the Extension Service. The department will be dependent to a large extent on the agricultural advisors stationed in the various farming areas and communities.

d. Plant quarantine service is very important. It should be strengthened wherever there is reasonable need.

G. Extension Service

a. Agricultural advisors should be placed in all important farming areas as quickly as they can be obtained or trained. The success

of the Ministry of Agriculture in meeting the needs of farmers will depend more on the service rendered by agricultural extension workers than on any other activity of the Ministry. These men live with the farmers, know their problems, and can be observed by farmers as they go about helping them with their problems. This instills confidence in work the agricultural advisors are doing.

b. The "Extension Specialist" can be thought of as a super-agricultural advisor in extension methods. An extension specialist should be appointed for several agricultural areas to supervise the work of agricultural advisors and serve as the representative of the Director of Extension Service. Also, he will be active in the training program for prospective agricultural advisors.

c. The Ministry should maintain a training program in the various farming areas representative of farming in the Kingdom. The agricultural advisors are indispensable in helping locate and select prospective trainees. The Director of the Extension Service, the regional extension specialist, and the local agricultural advisors will constitute a team to plan and administer these training programs.

The training of agricultural advisors and putting them to work, and providing for advanced training, constitutes the quickest means of getting farmers to improve their production practices. The experiment stations determine the most desirable practices, and the agricultural advisors teach them to the farmers.

d. Annual short courses are primarily for bringing agricultural advisors up to date relative to improved farm practices and agricultural information in general.

e. An opportunity should be provided for agricultural advisors who have the basic education essential to study in institutions of higher learning. The Ministry should provide greater opportunities along this line.

f. The success of the agricultural advisors depends to a large measure on the efficiency with which the Ministry keeps them supplied with equipment and supplies for demonstrating or teaching better farm practices. Consequently, this service should be in the hands of an expert agricultural advisor who knows the problems of the men in the field and how to keep them well supplied.

g. There is a need for the publication of agricultural studies so that more citizens will have the opportunity to keep abreast of agricultural activities. All experimental data should be published and care taken in the preservation of copies in the library.

h. There is a need now, and there will be a greater need in the future, to provide young Saudis and adult farmers with printed information relative to improved methods of producing crops and animals. A service should be established whereby small pamphlets and bulletins of this kind, written in simple language, will be disseminated free to the farming areas.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Jidda

March 31, 1954

Mr. Roy W. Nixon
Horticulturist
U. S. Date Garden
Indio, California

Dear Roy:

Your letter of March 17 was received and we were glad to hear from you. I see you are back in the harness again. Hope things go as you would have them.

When you have completed the bulletin on "Date Culture in Saudi Arabia", I should be glad to receive a copy. It is my hope that this effort will be of much value to the Saudi extension workers. Copies of the manuscript you left here are out for reading now. I plan to run some mimeographed copies, but I shall attempt to get FOA to print the same in bulletin form.

When we get into finances, things seem to get gummed up. Mr. Bode tells me that he does not have the authority to pay you while in the continuous travel status except after country travel authorization was issued here. He has written Washington relative to how the matter can be handled.

Concerning the photographic expense, you will find enclosed an expense voucher No. 1146. If you will sign the original and each of the two copies in the two places indicated and forward to me, a check can be issued to you at the Embassy which I shall forward to you. This sure is a round-about way of doing things, but you are not on the spot here to receipt for the check.

Please place an order for 100 of the reprints of your paper to be presented to the Date Growers' Institute. I'll find a way to pay for them.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Nixon, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa
Encls.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
Jeddah

TRANSLATION

March 28, 1954

Dr. William Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division
U.S.A.O.M.

Greetings:

With reference to your letter dated March 8th, and the Liaison Office memorandum No. 21/2/13 dated 5/7/1373, which were attached to the Proposed Agriculture Development Program in the Wadi Khulais Area, we would like to inform you that after reading this program we have found that it differs from the program we explained to you in our previous letter to which we attached the development program as proposed by the committee which we commissioned to study this program. Therefore, we are sending you back the proposed program together with your letter hoping that you will amend it in a way commensurate with the program we proposed.

Minister of Agriculture

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
~~[illegible] ADMINISTRATION~~
USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

March 27, 1954

Mr. Ibrahim S. Hassunch
Agricultural Specialist
Dammam-Qatif Area
Dammam, Saudi Arabia

Dear Mr. Hassunch:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 3 and I was very glad to hear from you. Also, I am glad to know you are making some progress relative to becoming a Saudi citizen. Whenever this has been accomplished, I should be glad to communicate with you further concerning a Point IV scholarship to study date palms in the United States. Whenever you are over this way, I should be glad to have you stop by and discuss the above matter with me.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Jidda

March 27, 1954

Mr. Said Ghammaz
Abha, Saudi Arabia

Dear Mr. Ghammaz:

This will acknowledge your letter of recent date pertaining to your visit in Jidda. We were very glad to have had the opportunity to talk with you again and I hope you will find it convenient to be coming our way again. You have a fine community in which to live and I think many things can be accomplished in an agricultural way. It is my hope that after the dam has been completed we will have the pleasure of working with you more closely on some of your problems. Give my very best wishes to the Emir.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

المملكة العربية السعودية

وزارة المالية

مكتب الاتصال للمساعدات الفنية

جدة

الرقم ..

التاريخ .

المشفوعات

Dear Mr Edens,

Greetings,

I hope that you are in good health and good condition. I inform you that I reached abha safely and in good condition.

I offer my thanks and appreciations for your hospitality and hope to see you again in good condition. Please accept my best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Said Ghammaz.

حضرة المكرم الفاضل المستر وليم بيدنتز ـ حفظه الله

بعد التحية والاحترام ـ

ارجو الله انكم في اتم الصحة والرفاهية التامه • اخبركم بانني ببركة دعواتكم المباركة قد وصلت ايبها بحال السلامه

شاكرا وقدرا حسن عنايتكم ومالاتيه منكم من عطف سائلا المولى ان لايجعله اخر العهد بكم وان يجمعنا واياكم على استرحال هذا مع تفضلكم بقبول اجل احتراماتي ؟؟ المخلص

٢ / ٧/١٣٧٣

عبدالله

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

CHARGE:

Control: TOUSFU 369

DATE: March 24, 1954

TO: FOA/W

USFOTO CIRC L20-N24.
No participants will attend agricultural information short course.

CORSON

HJCorson
WJEdens/pz

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1952 - 220210

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

March 18, 1954

Buckeye Incubator Co.
Springfield, Ohio

Gentlemen:

We are interested in buying an oil heated incubator of approximately 4,000 egg capacity. Electricity in Jidda is not dependable and we think an oil heated machine would be more satisfactory. If you do not make such a machine, we will appreciate your advice as to where they may be found. Please give us price, FAS New York, packed for export, as well as specifications.

Sincerely yours,

T. O. Parker

TOParker:o

Ag Concep 2

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION
USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

March 8, 1954

Your Highness:

In accordance with your amendments and your telegraphic reply to my letter of March 1, parts of the Khulais plan of work have been rewritten to include the amendments thereto. I am glad there is common agreement on this work plan, for we can now move forward cooperatively to accomplish its purposes. A letter from you stating that the attached plan of work, as amended and rewritten, is approved will be appreciated.

Just as soon as the boundaries of the land at Well No. 5 can be determined, we will move machinery there to level the land and prepare it for irrigation and the planting of seed. The season is far advanced. The same machinery can be used for road purposes.

I hope the proposed new "Agreement for a Cooperative Program of Agriculture" which will bring all agricultural project agreements under your Ministry, has been received and that approval will be given to this. The advantages of this program agreement were pointed out to you in my letter of March 2, 1954, which accompanied copy of the agreement.

We miss your being here in Jidda, and it is hoped that you are meeting with success in the presentation of your budget. An adequate budget is very important in making a sound start of your Ministry.

Assuring you we wish to cooperate every way possible, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

WJEdens/pa

PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN THE WADI KHULAIS AREA OF SAUDI ARABIA

Under the provisions of the Community Development Project Agreement entered into by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Government of the United States of America on December 15, 1952, it is proposed that the following initial plan of work for agricultural development in the Wadi Khulais area be adopted and items of services, materials, supplies, equipment and other physical facilities set forth below be provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and the USAOM to Saudi Arabia for implementing this plan of work immediately.

Plan of Work

1. Establish an Experimental Farm.

It is proposed that the Ministry of Agriculture establish a crop experimental farm of 15 feddans in area at Well No. 5 to be operated by the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with the USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia. The purpose of this farm will be to (1) test seeds and determine the best varieties, (2) produce seeds to be distributed to farmers, (3) provide nurseries for vegetables of the best varieties, (4) determine the best production methods, and (5) demonstrate the best ways of combatting insects and diseases.

When the best seeds and plants have been determined, a number of leading farmers scattered throughout the community will be invited to plant a few of the seeds to demonstrate their value. Other farmers seeing these demonstrations will become interested in obtaining and planting the better seeds.

Some of the work on the Khulais Farm can be started immediately with personnel and equipment now on hand, such as testing drawdown of Well No. 5, selecting experimental farm site, testing soil for irrigation qualities and plant food, contouring and leveling land, planning and constructing irrigation system, irrigating and planting seed, and placing seed in the hands of some farmers for testing.

2. Cleaning of Dug Wells.

Hundreds of dug wells are now in Wadi Khulais from which farmers draw water for irrigation. Many of these wells have accumulated much sand and other debris which reduces the available flow of water and consequently cultivatable acreage. Farmers are interested in cleaning these wells but lack equipment for this work.

It is proposed that a local team of three persons be trained to clean wells with the use of equipment provided by the Ministry and USAOM and that this team and equipment be made available to farmers in exchange for their labor to be used on the experimental farm or some other work of community development.

3. Instruct Farmers in Improved Irrigation Methods.

It is proposed that farmers be instructed in improved irrigation methods so they will get the greatest benefits from water that is available. There are many wells in the community with water levels close to the surface, and it is proposed that steps be taken to demonstrate taking water from these wells with low cost pumps. This will enable the farmers to cultivate more land and thereby increase their production.

4. Livestock Improvement.

Contact farmers and determine their interest in improving and

increasing poultry production. Should there be sufficient interest, provide each interested farmer with a certain number of baby chicks with the understanding that he will return something in kind as payment for the chicks. It is proposed that feed be purchased and delivered at the rate of one pound per chick at the time of delivery, and that a supply of appropriate feed be kept on hand at the local suq or at the compound where it may be purchased by the farmers until feed is available at the suq. Also, it will be necessary to obtain the farmers' agreement to provide suitable quarters for keeping the young chicks.

Under the supervision of the extension specialist, supervise the construction of pit silos for farmers where there is sufficient interest and the possibility of it being a practical investment for the farmer. Each farm will supply its own construction materials and the required labor for all work needed.

It should be pointed out that the Livestock Experimental Station near Jidda will cooperate with the community in obtaining purebred sires and the distribution of these to given places in the community.

Instruct farmers in the control of livestock pests and diseases.

5. Seed Improvement.

Provide a way of distributing improved seeds and plants to farmers for payment in kind or labor, just as soon as tests have been made on the experimental farm to determine their production standards and their suitability to the area.

6. Range Management.

Select a 40 acre tract of Government owned land appropriately located in the Wadi Khulais area to be used for experimental purposes in

determining ways and means of improving vegetation for livestock grazing. This will involve fencing the area and importing seed from other countries where range crops have been grown reasonably successfully under similar climatic conditions. An attempt will be made to re-establish vegetation native to the Khulais area which has been depleted during the years because of overgrazing.

7. Agricultural Training.

Provide local extension service training to the youth and adults of the Khulais area and, in the process, attempt to discover certain individuals who show desirable agricultural aptitudes and leadership ability. The purpose of this training would be to assist farmers in solving their own problems as well as to provide assistant agricultural extension workers.

8. Soil Studies.

Survey and report soil conditions on the major types of soils relative to irrigation qualities, crop adaptation, and plant food deficiencies. Instruct farmers in the use of manures, commercial fertilizers and increasing organic matter in the soil.

9. Roads.

Due to the importance of transportation to agricultural development and advancement, it is proposed that a study be made, in cooperation with the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, relative to contacting the road of Wadi Khulais with the paved Jidda-Medina road, and put the results of such a study into immediate action if they are feasible.

10. Extension Expert.

Appoint an extension expert to direct the farmers to follow the modern methods of agricultural production and to control insects scattered throughout the Wadi, provided his activities should include the nearby wadis of Wadi Khulais.

Estimated Expenditures for the First Year of Operation

It is proposed that initial expenditures be prorated as follows:

Object of Expenditure		Amount by SAG (Rivals)	Amount by U.S. Govt. (Dollars)
Personnel:			
1 Extension Counterpart - 15,000 SR			
1 Counterpart, prorated - 15,000			
1 U.S. Extension Specialist			No Charge
1 U.S. Extension Specialist (prorated			No Charge
1 Farm Superintendent	3,000		
2 Driver-Mechanics	12,000		
Laborers	3,000		
1 Cook	2,000		
Night Watchmen	2,000		
Well Cleaning Crew (3)	1,800	53,800	
Travel		6,000	6,300
Housing, Personnel:			
USAGM Employees			8,500
SA Employees:			
Extension (2)	15,000		
Farm Supt.	10,000		
Barracks for 4	10,000	35,000	
Transporting Things		4,000	
Communications		500	
Buildings:			
Storage 4 x 13 M	5,300 SR		
Shed 6 x 13 M	2,900		
Farm Shop 6 x 10 M	4,400		
Fencing, 40 acres	6,000		
Seed Bins, Cabinets & Fixtures	5,600	24,200	
Well & Generator House		4,800	
Two Portable Generators & Water Tank		20,000	
Fuel & Oil		12,000	
Demonstration Supplies & Equipment			7,850
Seed & Plant Stocks			2,000
Purebred Foundation Stock			4,100
Farm Shop Tools & Equipment			1,500
Farm Tractor & Attachments			3,540
Ensilage Mill & Motor			1,200
Compound Fence			850
Fencing & Labor for Range Management Plot		11,000	
		171,300	35,840

Records and Accounts

It is proposed that the Ministry of Agriculture and USAOM keep records of their respective expenditures in the execution of this work plan and at the end of each sixty (60) days report to one another their total expenditures. Such expenditure will be credited to the amount each Government agreed to contribute under the terms of the Community Development Project Agreement.

WJEdens/pm

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

~~TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION~~

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Jidda

March 6, 1954

Salinity Laboratory
Riverside, California

Dear Sirs:

In a separate package I am sending soil samples from the sabakhas on the east coast of Saudi Arabia. Many people are interested in reclaiming these soils. I will appreciate any comments you may have to offer.

There is an abundance of water from flowing wells. Aramco has given me the following information on water quality:

Dammam Wells

	Date	Na	Ca	Mg	SO_4	Cl	HCO_3	T.S.	pH	Specific Gravity
Flowing	8/31/53	553	231	76	413	1058	207	2538	7.2	1.003
	10/3/53	559	230	74	429	1051	201	2544	7.2	1.0028
	10/18/53	462	220	68	409	909	204	2282	7.5	1.003
	9/23/53	486	224	66	450	884	210	2320	7.2	1.0025
	9/23/53	485	226	70	446	909	195	2331	7.1	1.0025
	9/23/53	475	224	74	441	909	189	2312	7.1	1.0025
	9/24/53	476	226	71	441	902	195	2311	7.2	1.0025
	8/31/53	476	222	70	437	888	207	2300	7.5	1.002
	9/14/53	468	227	71	446	888	195	2295	7.2	1.003
	9/16/53	475	220	71	454	880	195	2295	7.15	1.003
	9/23/53	496	222	73	490	898	192	2371	7.2	1.0025
Not Flowing	9/14/53	504	224	74	441	944	207	2394	7.4	1.003

Dammam Drains

	10/18/53	729	365	171	1106	1345	189	3902	7.8	1.004
	10/18/53	630	376	129	1073	1115	183	3506	7.7	1.004
	10/18/53	578	426	139	1094	1122	210	3569	7.6	1.004
	10/19/53	524	315	104	668	1061	214	2889	7.6	1.003
	11/2/53	602	291	100	656	1129	210	2988	7.8	1.002

Qatif Wells

	1/19/52	319	162	170	437	838	195	2121	7.6
	51	337	184	67	365	664	183	1800	7.2

The area to be reclaimed is free from vegetation, though crusting salt on the surface is lacking. The topography is nearly flat, rising from high tide to perhaps as much as six feet above high tide. Because of danger of salt water entering from the Persian Gulf, it will probably be impossible to drain this land to a depth greater than two to six feet.

It may also be of interest to you that some soil in the area is being irrigated and the farmers are now applying about 23 feet of water a year. Evaporation is low and drainage is poor. Crops are responding to this treatment as you might expect. Date palms were found with roots not over 20 inches long. Oranges and grapes will not grow. Other crops, fruit and vegetables look sick. Possibilities for improving water management are great.

Please send a copy of results and comments to:

O. S. Aamodt
Research Center
Beltsville, Md.

C. W. Baker
2730 N.W. 4th St.
Miami 35, Florida.

Attached is a description of the soil samples.

Very truly yours,

George P. Gibbs
Soils Specialist

Attachment

GPGibbs/pa

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

~~TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION~~

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Jidda

IDENTIFICATION OF SOIL SAMPLES

Package No.

1 Contains 3 samples in profile as follows:

Top 3 inches
3" to 15" horizon
15" to 30" horizon

This series of soil samples was taken in a sabahka on the Ras Tanura Road northwest of Qatif, Saudi Arabia. Salt water seeped in at the 30" horizon.

2 Contains 3 samples in profile as follows:

Top 8 inches
8" to 20" horizon
20" to 30" horizon

This series of soil samples was taken near the Dammam-Al Khobar Road inside the Saudi Government Railroad Customs Compound. It is near sea level and water appears in post holes on the property during high tide within 24 inches of the surface.

3 Contains 3 samples in profile as follows:

Top 6 inches
6" to 15" horizon
15" to 28" horizon

This series of soil samples was taken in a rice paddy in the farming area near Hofuf, Saudi Arabia. The land was soaking wet when the samples were taken because of several days rain.

4 Contains two soil samples taken from the top 6 inches of surface soil. The location is near sea level on the Gulf side of the Dammam-Al Khobar Road opposite the Saudi Government Railroad Customs Compound. This area supports some grass tentatively identified as a member of the Eragrostis family. This grass provides some forage year-round for cattle, especially camels. Another plant called Aakroob by the locals is also to be found growing in this area.

5 Contains two samples of soil taken from the surface 6 inches and 10 inches. Samples were taken on the north side of the road leading from Dammam to the Ras Tanura Road. Several grasses are to be found thriving in this area and seeded rather heavily during early November. Most of the vegetation found in this area was very rhizomotous and vigorous. In early October, soil moisture was found about 10 inches below the soil surface with roots of the grasses and other vegetation well established in this horizon.

6 Contains one soil sample taken from the top 6 inches in a location south of the pipeline from Qatif to Ras Tanura, north of the Qatif Pumping Station. Moisture at 10".

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

~~TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION~~

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Jidda

MEMORANDUM

March 2, 1954

TO : Harland J. Corson
Director

FROM: W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

RE : Various Items

1. I have discussed with you, and Mr. Taylor also, the health hazard here relative to the fine, sharp silt dust kept stirred up by the janitors sweeping in the manner they now practice. During the day, at times, the front hall is swept back into the air conditioning room where it is picked up and circulated throughout the hall. This is severe, because it stays in circulation a long time. It causes headaches and bronchial irritations.

The janitors often sweep my office just before I come in of mornings. Sometimes I have to wait until sweeping is completed. The same fine dust fogs the room. This type of work should be done in the evening before or in a manner so that dust will not be made a hazard. This is 2:10 p.m. and the boy is now sweeping in the office next to me and in the hall, and the dust is fogging in the hall.

There are ways to remedy this situation and I am again respectfully requesting that something be done regarding the matter.

2. The Mission office hours should conform to the liaison office hours, or vice versa. Much more efficient time could be made of the liaison personnel as well as that of our own.

3. It is suggested that a staff meeting be held for all personnel at least once a week. I feel the need for knowing what other parts of the body are doing. Every person should know factual things that are realities of the Mission. Thus more can be done to establish with the natives and others a relationship of information, mutual relationships and helpfulness.

4. Mission personnel, and at least Mission division chiefs, should be privileged to read the monthly Mission Activity Report to FOA/W and other reports of importance. If Mission chiefs and technicians are not interested in reading such reports, they should be.

5. A system should be established whereby members of technicians' families may be transported to and from certain functions or appointments when these men are in the field.

6. I believe the Mission would save considerable time, as well as wear and tear on nerves, if an auto mechanic were employed and placed at Bin Zagr to make minor vehicle repairs which are oftentimes just as important to the operation of the vehicle as are major repairs.

7. A statement on the status of the diplomatic note maneuvering is needed.

8. It is still my opinion that it is more feasible, at present and in the near future, to start community improvement at Abha than at El Darb.

The above statements are in no way to be construed as criticism of any one or ones of the Mission. And I should be glad to help with any item that will help improve the effectiveness of our Mission.

WJEdens/pa

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION
USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

March 2, 1954

Mr. Abdullah Dabbag
Assistant Director General of Agriculture
Ministry of Agriculture
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Dear Abdullah:

I recall promising to forward to you the preliminary observations made by Mr. George Gibbs, soil scientist, when he made a brief study of the Experiment Station at Kilo 10. The observations and suggestions made are indicative of conditions that now exist. You and Mr. Bodkook may want to make a more detailed study.

Assuring you that we want to cooperate every way we can, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Jidda

March 2, 1954

Your Highness:

This letter is to present a matter which, we believe, will provide a greater opportunity for your Ministry and the Agriculture Division of USAOM to cooperate in a technical assistance program of agriculture to raise production standards and improve the well-being of farmers throughout the country.

You will recall there was first a country agreement between our two governments whereby USAOM (formerly TCA) was requested to provide technical assistance in agriculture and other fields. Under the provisions of this country agreement, the Agreement for a Cooperative Program of Agriculture was entered into by the Minister of Finance and the Country Director of TCA to Saudi Arabia. To date no project agreements have been entered into under the provisions of this Program Agreement, due largely to circumstances with which both governments are familiar.

The USAOM to Saudi Arabia is now requesting that the present Agreement for a Cooperative Program of Agriculture be changed to one which (1) will place all technical cooperative operations more directly in the hands of Ministry personnel, and (2) will provide an agency within your Ministry to be known as the "Agricultural Cooperative Service" which will have, under your supervision, the responsibility of administering all project agreements entered into by the Ministry of Agriculture and the USAOM. Such an arrangement will give greater flexibility to all of our joint efforts, and more efficient use of funds contributed by both governments to the projects undertaken.

We should appreciate your reading the proposed program agreement herewith attached. Also, we should be glad to discuss this matter with you and receive your written comments on same.

Assuring you of our desire to cooperate in all matters, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Jidda

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

INCOMING

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

Control: 247
Recd: March 021323Z, 1954

FROM: DHAHRAN

Date: March 021014Z, 1954

For Corson from Thrailkill.

Arriving MATS 10 AM Wednesday and enroute Addis same day.

HACKLER

lms

DIST:

Ambassador
FOA - Action
Lindquist
File

Airport checked at 9:15 no word of MATS

Action: Edens

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1953 - 242207

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

~~TECHNICAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION~~

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

American Embassy - Jidda

March 1, 1954

Mr. Samuel H. Marrian
Associate Project Director
Division of Engineering & Industrial Research
National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Marrian:

This has reference to your letter of February 8, 1954, concerning certain information pertaining to Saudi Arabia. There is no data now available to answer your questions. However, Dr. Glen Brown, Chief of our Natural Resources Division, has work in process that will shed some light on this information in which we are all interested.

Until you get Dr. Brown's report, I am herewith giving various estimates which have been made by those who have observed and studied the country.

Question 1. Arable land in Saudi Arabia is estimated at 500,000 acres. Possibly one-half of this lies fallow at any given time.

Farm lands are greatly scattered in Saudi Arabia. Their location depends on available water. Major acreages are on the Red Sea side, in the east-central area (Qasim), and along the Persian Gulf with Dhahran about in its midst. The South Asir Tohama has much land suited to irrigated farming, provided water could be made available.

Question 2. It is my opinion that the present amount of land in farms could be doubled if water were available; that the present acres irrigated could be doubled by better water management practices, and that production standards could be stepped up considerably by using commercial fertilizers, particularly by the addition of nitrogen.

Question 3. Dr. Glen Brown is attempting to answer the water resources questions.

Question 4. Our soil scientist and agronomist feel that the greatest response by plants would be to nitrogen. The current preferential need is for nitrogen; however, it is our opinion that response would be good to phosphorus. During the next growing season we plan to make tests.

I should be glad to be kept informed concerning your inquiry into the utilization of flare gases in Saudi Arabia for manufacturing fertilizers. We shall be glad to cooperate any way we can.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 27, 1954

Dr. Conrad H. Hammar
Chief, Agriculture Division
c/o American Embassy, FOA
Baghdad, Iraq

Dear Dr. Hammar:

Thank you for your letter of January 23 and your enclosed report concerning a mixed feed industry in Iraq.

The Saudis have a feed problem too. Any livestock projects will be approached very carefully from this standpoint. Mr. Otis Parker, Animal Husbandry Specialist, is now investigating sources of concentrates for helping establish a livestock experimental farm.

At present there are no mixed feeds on the markets here. When a demand has been created, Mr. Parker hopes to get local interest sufficient to establish one or more outlets. I should think that Iraq could do some business with Saudi Arabia, and we should be glad to know how you progress in the establishment of a mixed feed industry.

There is little to go on to estimate prospective needs. We hope to get some work going in Poultry in the Jidda and Dhahran areas this year. It will involve only a few thousand birds, but the possibilities are great.

Again let me thank you for writing.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

WJE

MC

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 20, 1954

Sayed Sulaiman Hilal and Sons
Mecca, Saudi Arabia

Dear Sir:

Your letter of recent date to our Ambassador inquiring about Point IV work in agriculture has been referred to me for reply.

The Agriculture Division of the USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia has for its purpose to work with the Ministry of Agriculture in its efforts to improve the rural standard of living, and cause agriculture to become a more important part of the Saudi Arabian economy. Our assistance is being rendered primarily through U.S. agricultural technicians working with the Ministry and its technicians in efforts to improve the production standards of farm animals, crops, vegetables, fruits and range vegetation. Much attention will be given to irrigation practices and the drainage of land where needed. Also, efforts will be made in cooperation with the Natural Resources Division to discover new sources of underground water for crop and livestock production.

Since the farming areas of this country are located wherever there are supplies of water, it is our purpose to be of assistance in the establishment of agricultural improvement programs in these major farming areas. It is planned that our work, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, will follow what is generally known as the agricultural extension route.

There is much need to improve farm methods so that farmers will receive greater returns from their work. We are working with the Ministry to develop a greater research program pertaining to all phases of agriculture so that the best farming methods for Saudi Arabia may be learned and recommended to the farmers. Also, much attention will be given to marketing agricultural products.

U.S. technicians will assist in training Saudi technicians so that they will come to serve as agricultural extension workers to assist farmers in improving their production standards. A program of this kind by the Ministry should lead to the establishment of a national school of agriculture where technical training can be made available to all young Saudis who are interested in agriculture.

The Point IV program embraces more than agriculture. It includes services in health, education, resources development, industrial and other technical services. Each of these divisions is working with its respective

Saudi Arabian Government Ministry in whatever work is undertaken to develop a greater economy for the entire country.

I hope what has been stated above will give you a general picture of Point IV work. However, I should be glad to discuss any phase of our work with you whenever it is convenient.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

cc: Hon. George Wadsworth
Mr. Robert J. Ballantyne

WJEdens/pa

WJEdens/pa

USAOM/SA

Dr Edens

~~MR. TAYLOR~~:

I ATTACH A DRAFT REPLY TO HILAL, WHICH I WILL TRANSMIT TO HIM, IF YOU HAVE NO OBJECTION. WOULD YOU MIND ASKING DR. EDENS TO MAKE A MORE DETAILED REPLY.

THANKS.

CRNELSON

Mecca: 19/5/1373 corresponding Jan. 24, 1954.

H.E. The Ambassador of the United States of America,
Jidda.

Greetings:-

We have heard much about the Point Four program, which was arranged by the United Nations. We would be very pleased if you could explain fully what is included in this program, especially the agricultral part, which concerns us as agriculturists.

If you have the regulations of this program, Arabic or English, could you send us a copy? Please send your reply as soon as possible.

Thanking you in advance, please accept our high respect.

Sincerely Yours,

Sayed Sulaiman Hilal and Sons.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Mecca - Hedjaz
Saudi Arabia
Cable Add.
Hilal - Mecca.
P. O. Box No: 206

السيد سليمان هلال وأولاده
SAYED SULAIMAN HILAL

مكة المكرمة - الحجاز
تلغرافيا (هلال)
تلفون نمره (٩٣)
صندوق البريد نمره [٢٠٦]

مكة في ١٩/ ٥/ ٧٣هـ الموافق ٢٤ يناير ١٩٥٤م · الى جدة

حضرة صاحب السعادة سفير الولايات المتحدة الامريكية بجدة الموقر

بعد التحية ـ

لقد سمعنا الكثير عن مشروع النقطة الرابعة التي نظمته هيئة الامم المتحدة ونكون جدا ممنونين لو تكرمتم بافادتنا تفصيليا عن ما تشمله هذه النقطة لا سيما من الناحية الزراعية التي تهمنا كمزارعين · وهل توجد لديكم نسخة من نظام هذا المشروع سواء بالانكليزية او العربية · وهل يمكن التكرم بارسال منته · والرجاء التفضل بالرد سريعا ولكم الشكر سلفا ·

وتفضلوا بقبول احسن التحيات والاحترام ···

المخلص

السيد سليمان هلال واولاده

American Embassy,
Jidda, Saudi Arabia,
February 7, 1954.

Sayed Sulaiman Hilal & Sons,
P. O. Box 206,
Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

Gentlemen:

The Embassy has received your letter of January 24, 1954 requesting information concerning the Point Four program and is forwarding it to the United States of America Operations Mission, agency responsible for Point Four in Saudi Arabia, for appropriate reply.

Further communications concerning this matter may be addressed to the United States of America Operations Mission, attention Dr. Edens, Jidda.

If this Embassy can be of assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to write.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Ballantyne
Commercial Attache

cc: USAOM/SA
RJB/dh

2 Ag

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 20, 1954

Mr. Fred A. Barham
Agriculture Extension Specialist
c/o American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

I have just written to Mr. Bolster about your separation allowance. You will note the enclosed copy of letter. It may take a little time to get this worked out; however, your guess is as good as mine.

I hope things are moving along fairly well with you. It is slow here but we keep plugging and that's about all that can be done at present.

George talked with me about your car situation. Of course, I already knew that the car was not in good condition and had recommended that it be replaced. Again I have taken the matter up with Mr. Corson and Mr. Taylor and advised that a pick-up truck, Ford or Chevrolet, be purchased in the Dhahran area. However, it has not been decided whether this will be done or that an attempt will be made to give your present vehicle a complete overhaul. Just where that could be done, I do not know and I don't think it is feasible. Everyone is interested in doing what is best for all concerned and I hope that something satisfactory will be worked out in the near future.

I talked to Prince Sultan about a counterpart for you and suggested that one be appointed of your selection there in the Hofuf area. I stressed the need for training young Saudis in agricultural extension work. He has informed me that Ibrahim Hossuneh, agricultural expert at Dammam, will be transferred to Hofuf to work with you. You possibly know him and I imagine that he will be more satisfactory than the situation has been thus far.

The requisition for various supplies and materials you forwarded to this office recently has been submitted to the office here for transmittal to Washington. Don't expect this too soon, though I know that you need something right now. The seeds ordered by air express to come here and to you at Hofuf should have been delivered by this time. The order here came through last week. Go ahead and use the seed as you see fit. Whenever we can get the Hofuf project agreement signed, I hope for us to be able to establish an experimental plot and get it going.

I also talked to Prince Sultan about the housing situation. I have advised that all housing there at the old experimental station be placed under our supervision. I believe that would be more satisfactory and see no reason why you cannot use Mr. Carlson's apartment. Please keep me informed on this situation.

Enclosed you will find a check in the amount of $40.38 which, as I understand, brought you up to date on post allowance. I presume these will be coming every two weeks and they will be forwarded to you.

Also you will note an enclosure from Mr. Flatequal. This letter was opened by mistake along with some of my other mail.

George tells me that he enjoyed his stay and work with you and is looking forward to returning to do further soils work in that area.

If I have not answered all of the questions you have raised, don't hesitate to raise them again. All of us have you in mind and are doing all that we can to help you get moving, more so along the lines in which I am sure you are interested.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Encls. (3)

WJEdens/pa

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 20, 1954

Your Highness:

As was requested by you, I am writing relative to the use of housing at the old experiment station near Hofuf. The buildings there were constructed several years ago; however, they are still useful.

Living quarters suitable for agricultural technicians consist of one building which has two apartments. In addition, a two-room office building is located nearby. It is supposed to be under repair and extension at present for additional living quarters.

Since Mr. Carlson of FAO has returned to the States, and Mr. Husseini is coming to Jidda, it is suggested that the above mentioned facilities be placed under the supervision of Mr. Fred A. Barham, our extension specialist, and his Ministry counterpart, who are to be stationed at Hofuf for work your Ministry proposes to conduct. As I am sure you know, an installation of that kind must be constantly supervised for it to remain in a continuous state of service.

Preliminary studies indicate that the crop experimental plots can be located near the building and the water supply can be taken from the present well.

A reply regarding this matter at an early date will be appreciated.

Please accept my regards.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Asis
Minister of Agriculture
Jidda

WJEdens/pa

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

Jidda

February 20, 1954

Mr. H. G. Bolster
Head, Middle East and Eastern European Division
FAS
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bolster:

This has reference to your letter of February 3, 1954.

Enclosed you will find the repayment agreement as called for in Part 3, Section 125.17, FSM.

Mr. Parker and I thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Encls.

WJEdens/pa

Ag (2)

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 20, 1954

Mr. H. G. Bolster
Head, Middle East and Eastern European Division
FAS
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bolster:

This has reference to application Mr. Fred A. Barham has made for separation allowance. It is my understanding that he made application here at the Embassy and that the application has been forwarded to the Washington office and presumably on to you.

It is very difficult here at times to learn just what has happened or what progress has been made. Mr. Barham is quite interested in this matter and has urged me to please see what can be done since he has been here now for a considerable period of time.

We shall appreciate it very much if you will look into the matter and let Mr. Barham or me know the present status of the situation. Mr. Barham's address is: c/o American Consulate, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

AIR MAIL

FEB 1 8 1954

Dr. W. J. Edens
c/o American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Dear Dr. Edens:

We were pleased to receive the copy of your "Monthly Activity Report - January 1954," particularly to note that a Ministry of Agriculture has been created, a Minister appointed, and above all to observe the prominent advisory part you and your staff have played in reference to the organization, budget, and personnel for the new Ministry. We are routing the report to Cannon Hearne to read. Cannon will be interested both from the standpoint that he has been in Saudi Arabia and the fact that the organization of the Ministry, at least as suggested by your chart, provides for an Extension Service as one of the six technical branches.

You should soon be getting official information indicating that USDA's part in the technical assistance program is being materially changed under a new agreement between FOA/W and USDA which may be formally signed by the time this letter is posted. For example, all recruitment is being taken over by FOA. We may continue to do some backstopping, but only as requested by FOA from time to time and in specific instances.

The bulk of the work in the FAS area offices will now be in the field of trade and economics.

We hope the new arrangement will enable you men in the field to carry on effectively and with satisfaction.

Sincerely yours,

H. G. Bolster, Chief,
Middle East Branch

cc: Harland J. Corson, Jidda

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

AIR MAIL

FEB 17 1954

Dr. William J. Edens
c/o American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Dear Dr. Edens:

On October 7 we sent you a copy of the training program for seven Egyptians (my letter erroneously mentioned eight) in "Agricultural Extension and Community Development." The final enrollment proved to be seven Egyptians and seven Iranians under FOA sponsorship, plus one Iranian under FAO sponsorship, and one Iraqi who was getting most of his training in the U. S. under a program arranged by the Department of Interior. Much of this program was carried out at New Mexico A & M.

Dr. Fred P. Frutchey, of the Extension Service, conducted an evaluation session on the New Mexico phase of that program from January 17 to 23, inclusive. I thought you would be interested in the attached report by Dr. Frutchey covering that evaluation.

Sincerely yours,

H. G. Bolster, Chief,
Middle East Branch

Enclosure

cc: Harland J. Corson, Jidda

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 16, 1954

Mr. Fred A. Barham
Agricultural Extension Specialist
c/o American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

I have talked with George Gibbs upon his return and it seems that my letters to you have been rather slow in getting through. This is unfortunate for we need to communicate more often. I have looked over your letters, the monthly report and the special report on the Hofuf area which you have written. I should like to take up a few of those items at this time.

In your letter of January 27 you indicated that Mr. Gibbs appeared on the scene without your knowing about his coming. I wrote to you some time ahead regarding that matter and requested that you make your vehicle available and that you work with Mr. Gibbs not only in the Hofuf area but in the Dammam-Qatif community. Possibly you never got the letter. At no time do we want men coming into your community without your knowing about it. I think that is important in several ways. I am glad to know that you are speaking of Hofuf as "The Garden Spot of Saudi Arabia". I agree that it is a choice place in which to begin work. Also, I am glad to know that you feel much can be done in Hofuf and that it is a real challenge from the standpoint of increasing agricultural production and bringing about a higher standard of living among the people.

I received the equipment and materials list that you forwarded a few days ago. I shall check it for duplications with the list made out before you left and get that on into the office in the immediate future. That may sound discouraging, and in reality it is, but we cannot order equipment and supplies for the Hofuf area until the Minister of Agriculture signs with us the cooperative agreement to begin work there. This agreement has been in the hands of the Minister for several weeks but as yet we have not been able to get a signature. Since he is new and it is so near the end of their fiscal year, I am very doubtful that we will get much action until their budget is approved for the coming year which begins next month - March.

Enclosed you will find copy of letter addressed to you which was directed to this office. You will note that copies of the invoices are enclosed. These copies are being forwarded to the American Consulate at Dhahran, for the office here tells me it will be necessary that it have this information in order to clear the seed through customs. The seeds involved are the ones which were requested to be sent by air express. These were shipped about February 5 and should be arriving at any time.

Mr. Taylor made the request for your separation allowance. I checked with him this morning and he thought that the matter had gone through. He is checking again at the Embassy this morning. If he learns something, I shall attempt to add it on as a footnote to this letter. I shall be glad to do all possible to

see that you are permitted this allowance.

Believe it or not, the sand tires and tubes were shipped day before yesterday! The first day after my return from Dhahran, I requested that the tires be sent to you. It took some time to actually get a move made. The next thing I learned, the Saudi Government did not pay freight on the tires. An attempt was then made to send them by MATS. MATS argued that it was not supposed to do any transportation of that kind. About a month ago I was told that the tires were on their way and really didn't realize that the tires had not been shipped until two days ago. Since you are allowed up to $100 per month for incidental expense, I suggest that when you need a tire or repairs on the car that you go ahead and spend whatever is necessary.

I wrote to you on February 2 concerning your per diem. Surely you have that letter by this time in which two checks were enclosed amounting to approximately $175.00. Enclosed you will find a copy of that letter. I am glad we have been able to make your per diem on the basis of being stationed in Jidda and, as I understand, you have now been paid up to December 22 on that basis. I received the signed travel voucher for January and have taken the liberty of adding the days from December 22 to December 31 to that voucher. The time was distributed between Dhahran and Hofuf, about 1/3 to the former and 2/3 to the latter. This will bring you up to February 1 on the basis of $12 per day in the field and $18 per day in Dhahran. I trust this will be satisfactory with you. Any expense you have incurred, like paying for guides, etc., it is suggested that you place on your incidental expense account which will be paid to you upon turning in vouchers there at the American Consulate.

I note your comment with regard to a counterpart. You are probably right in this matter under the present circumstances. I have an appointment with the Minister of Agriculture tomorrow and plan to discuss this matter with him. If it is agreeable that you select a young man to train in the extension work and at the same time serve as an interpreter and guide to you, I shall learn how the matter can be handled so that he will be employed.

Mr. Gibbs discussed the many interesting days the two of you spent together and I hope that your tolerance and patience will hold out until we can make things better for you. On tomorrow I plan to also talk with the Minister about housing near Hofuf. I feel that it would be best for the entire installation to be turned over to FOA. In that way we could handle the matter in a way that would be best to all concerned. George tells me that the soil around those buildings is suitable for crop experimental work. This being true, and with a good water supply on hand, the installation as a whole would be much more desirable.

Keep me posted with regard to the way things are going. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Encls.

WJEdens/pa

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 16, 1954

Mr. H. G. Bolster, Head
Middle East and Eastern European Division
Foreign Agricultural Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bolster:

As usual, I find several of your letters and various enclosures at hand whenever I get around to writing. I am glad to know that you are making progress in the recruitment of Mr. Moller and Mr. Leonard. I shall be glad to write to Mr. Leonard if he addresses a letter to me as recommended by you.

Our program is moving along rather slowly; however, it is difficult to say whether anything more can be done than has been and is now being done to get action, more so in the field. The young Minister of Agriculture has not begun to function much. We have had considerable contact and have assisted a lot relative to organization, budget making and program. I have submitted the five-year plan mentioned in my last letter. At the Minister's request, I have submitted a budget to fit the first year plan. I have done much of this on my own - more than I feel I should have. However, it is difficult to get the Saudis to come out and make suggestions. As you know, there are not many men trained in agriculture and few have had adequate administrative experience. It is my understanding that Prince Sultan will present his budget within the next two or three weeks and it is my opinion that we will get very little done concerning project agreements until his budget has been approved. Then, I suppose, it will be like starting all over! We will, however, have done a lot of planning and will be ready to move faster. I am sure it is difficult for you and others to understand why so little is being done out on the firing line. Our men's time is not being used as we would have it, yet it would be very unwise to initiate work programs involving considerable funds without having an agreement with the Saudis concerning the contribution and part each would make and play.

Mr. Corson, our Country Director, is working very hard and in my opinion he will get results in due course of time. I assume that Mr. Stewart will soon be reaching the States. He is traveling by boat from Cairo. It was very unfortunate that it became necessary to take such action concerning his case. The preliminary work he had started is now at a standstill; however, if he were here right now we would be more or less stalled in carrying work further at Khulais until we have an understanding with the Ministry concerning what will be done and the part the host government and FOA will play. It is true that we have an overall community development project agreement, but it is so general it becomes necessary to be specific concerning programs of work coming under its provisions.

Give my regards to all, and with best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

WJEdens/m

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Ag (2)

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 16, 1954

American Consul General
American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Attention: Mr. Hackler

Dear Sir:

Some time ago we ordered some seed to be shipped to Mr. Fred A. Barham, Extension Specialist, in care of your office. Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of the letter, two copies of invoice, two copies of a packing list, descriptions of shipment containers, and a seed certificate by the State Entomologist of Connecticut. I have been informed by the Executive Office here that it will be necessary for your office to clear these seeds through customs and that the enclosed documents should be forwarded to you. I am also writing to Mr. Barham concerning the matter. Anything that you can do to be of assistance to Mr. Barham in obtaining the seed when they arrive will be greatly appreciated. If there is a better way to handle items of this kind in the future, I should be glad to have that information.

With best wishes to all of you, I am

Sincerely,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Encls.

WJEdens/pa

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 15, 1954

Your Highness:

Enclosed herewith you will find information pertaining to the Five-Year Plan for Agriculture in which you were interested. It deals with objectives, explanatory statements concerning phases of the Plan for 1954, and a suggested program budget for this first year.

I hope this information will be of some value to you and your staff, and I should be glad to discuss any part or all of it with you.

Assuring you of our desire to cooperate in all matters, and with best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

Encls.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

WJEdens/pa

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USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 10, 1954

Mr. Roy W. Nixon, Horticulturist
U. S. Date Garden
Indio, California

Dear Roy:

I have your letter of January 29 and am glad to know of the progress you have made. We are not moving rapidly as yet. We have been so short of secretarial assistance that there was no chance to have your report typed. However, another young lady was employed this week so I'm going to get the work started.

Concerning the draft of the "Date Varieties of the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia", I am writing to Mr. Bolster requesting that FAS take care of necessary expenses to get this part of your survey published and that the two of you work out the details. I shall look forward to receiving the manuscript on "Date Culture in Saudi Arabia". It is my plan to have it published here at Jidda. Have it typed under the same arrangement with Mr. Bolster so that expense can be provided.

The Department of Agriculture has been raised to a Ministry, but it now appears that the Ministry will not be in position to make any decisions until its budget is approved some time next month.

Mrs. Edens and others of the Mission join in best wishes to you and Mrs. Nixon.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

WJEdens/pa

Ag Corresp (2)

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

OFFICIAL - INFORMAL
UNCLASSIFIED

February 8, 1954

Dear Mr. Bolster:

I have located a young Saudi who, I believe, could be trained as an agricultural statistician for the new Ministry. His name is Mr. Abbas Ali Alrumaihi.

Mr. Alrumaihi is a graduate of the Secondary School of Mecca. His studies included arithmetic, algebra, geometry, chemistry, physics, Middle East history since 722, world geography, English and the Koran. His elementary school covered a period of seven years. The secondary school period was five years. In addition, Mr. Alrumaihi studied military science and English at the Manning School near London, England, for two years.

The Ministry of Agriculture needs a person to have charge of collecting, assembling, interpreting and publishing agricultural data. There is almost a total lack of agricultural information pertaining to Saudi Arabia. If Mr. Alrumaihi could be tutored in elementary statistics in some office of the USDA and given some practical work to do; then be sent to some State statistician's office to be trained in the functions there by actually having him do the work, that should give the necessary training and experience.

The above training could be done, possibly, in six months and that would enable him to return to Jidda at an early date. Also, it would enable Mr. Alrumaihi to begin his training as soon as we can get him over.

I should appreciate your directing this letter to the proper person for a reply at an early date.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Mr. H. G. Bolster,
Head, Middle East Division, FAS,
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington 25, D. C.

WJEdens:o

/Agroup

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 8, 1954

Your Highness:

This letter is to provide you with the information requested in your letter of January 13 addressed to Mr. Corson, Director of USAOM.

USAOM funds now available for a program of agricultural improvement in Saudi Arabia are provided by the Project Agreement for Community Development of December 15, 1952, and the proposed projects for this fiscal year. Of the $500,000 provided as a matching fund in the Project Agreement for Community Development in Wadi Khulais and Itwad, part will be devoted to agriculture.

At present, you have a proposal for starting work in Wadi Khulais which provides that USAOM contribute $35,840. Also, you have in hand three proposed projects (Livestock Improvement, Range Management, and Agricultural Improvement at Hofuf) which will provide a total of $91,800. All of these amounts will become available when the project agreements have been executed by you and the Director of USAOM.

Concerning funds that may be contributed by the USAOM between July 1, 1954 and June 30, 1955, ~~our~~ the estimate for budgeting could be made as follows: (1) discuss agricultural projects that should and could be undertaken during that period, and (2) estimate their approximate costs and what each government would contribute. With work already done in this matter, estimates can be made quickly, and I would be willing to recommend projects and items of expenditures therein to the Director of USAOM.

I should be glad to be of further assistance with your Ministry budget. And, in considering contributions by USAOM, it should be kept in mind that United States technicians furnished during the next fiscal year will represent an expenditure of approximately $300,000. It is important that these matters be discussed with you at an early date so that funds now available, and technicians on hand, can be put to work.

It is our desire to cooperate at all times.

Respectfully yours,

W. J. Edens, Chief
Agriculture Division

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

HJCorson
WJEdens/pa

Ag Corresp (2)

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

February 4, 1954

Your Highness:

Attached herewith is a proposed plan of agricultural work to be undertaken by your Ministry and the USAOM under provisions of the Community Development Project Agreement entered into by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Government of the United States of America on December 15, 1952. This plan of work is based on preliminary studies made by members of your technical staff and technicians of the Agriculture Division of this Mission and is considered as the first steps to be undertaken.

There is a great need for improving agricultural production in Wadi Khulais where there are many farms comprising several thousand acres. Experimental and extension work conducted in this community can be of great value, not only to farmers of Khulais, but to other farming sections with similar soils and climatic conditions.

We should appreciate your early consideration of this proposed work plan so that no time may be lost in getting the work under way. We should be glad to meet with you or your staff, or both, to discuss all or any part of the proposed work so that approval may be given by you and the Director of the USAOM.

We wish to assure you of our desire to cooperate in all matters, and a reply from you the soonest possible will be appreciated.

Please accept my respects.

Sincerely yours,

Harland J. Corson
Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Jidda

HJCorson
WJEdens/pa

Ag Coop

LIAISON OFFICE FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
J I D D A

February 2, 1954

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Corson, Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

FROM: Sadek Husseini, Director
Liaison Office for Technical Assistance

Enclosed please find translation of two letters received from the Minister of Agriculture and the Deputy Minister of Finance in connection with your request for the Hofuf accommodations and the tires and tubes requested for Mr. Barham at Hofuf.

Encls. - 2
As above

Mr Hamilton NPSH
Mr Thompson
Mr

TRANSLATION

Ministry of Finance
Jedda, Saudi Arabia

January 28, 1954
(25-5-73)

Mr. Harland J. Corson, Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

Greetings:

We acknowledge the receipt of your letter dd. January 25, 1954 (20-5-1373), concerning the housing situation for your agricultural technicians at the experiment station in Hofuf. Our orders have been issued to the respective authority to complete the required work immediately.

Sincerely yours,

(Sig. Prince) Sultan

Minister of Agriculture

Sa/A

TRANSLATION

Director General
Projects & Companies Affairs
Jedda, Saudi Arabia

January 26, 1954
(23, 5, 73)

His Excellency Assistant Minister of Finance
Eastern Region (Dammam Office)

Greetings:

In accordance with the request of the Director, Liaison Office for Technical Assistance, which was enclosed in the letter of H.R.H. Minister of Agriculture No. 127 dd. 18/5/73, we trust that you will authorize Aramco to furnish Mr. Barham, the Agricultural extension specialist in Hofuf, with four tires size 900/13 with inner tubes for his Jeep car. The price of the above mentioned tires and tubes is to be debited to the account of the Ministry of Finance.

Please, do inform us regarding this matter so as to debit it to the respective account.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance

Sa/A

Ag Corresp (1)

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

Ale

February 2, 1954

VIA AIR POUCH
UNCLASSIFIED

Mr. Fred Barham
c/o American Consulate
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Dear Fred:

How are you getting along? I am quite conscious of the fact that there is not enough communication between you and this office to provide for proper understanding and a balanced program of work. I should appreciate a few lines from you each two weeks telling me what you have been doing, and what you propose doing the next two weeks. Under the circumstances that may be difficult to do, but make a stab at it anyway.

Mr. Corson and I talked to the Minister of Agriculture concerning completion of the house at Hofuf. A formal request was made also. A formal reply was received to the effect that he was directing the proper authority to complete the house immediately. I hope it will be done, inshallah!

Enclosed you will find the voucher for reimbursement forwarded to me the latter part of December. Attached is a check (No. 3070) in the amount of $151.50. Please sign the voucher and return it to me for the Administrative Office.

It has been arranged whereby your assignment will be Jidda and detailed to Hofuf until housing has been provided at Hofuf. Therefore, please submit travel voucher beginning December 22, 1953, to the present. It is suggested that thereafter you submit travel vouchers for each pay period of two weeks or for two pay periods at one time. The office will forward a check on the back period upon receipt of the voucher.

You will note herewith check No. 3098 in the amount of $125.74, which is payment for bringing you up to date on cost of living allowance. This is the amount which equals the difference between the cost of living allowance you have been paid and what the same would have been with you being stationed at Jidda and assigned to Hofuf.

I am glad this arrangement has been made, for under the present circumstances it is a fairer proposition. Mr. Taylor requests that you

send in the forms giving the cost of living at Hofuf. This is for the purpose of establishing a cost of living allowance at Hofuf instead of using the present one at Dhahran, which provides about $8 per pay period.

I am looking forward to hearing from you, and I hope the house work is now under way.

Best of luck.

Sincerely,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Enclosures (2) -
Voucher
Check - $151.50

WJEdens:o

Ag Corresp

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

AIR MAIL

JAN 26 1954

Dr. W. J. Edens
c/o American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Dear Dr. Edens:

We received TOUSFO 251, of January 6, and proceeded to contact the suggested prospects for AG-10, Irrigation Engineer. Mr. Stokes had taken an assignment with FOA relative to the water spreading project and will probably be going to the Middle East before long as a member of an American advisory team. He probably would not be available, even if interested, before July or August.

Kit Carson is not interested in the AG-10 position. Mr. Stevens, because of conditions beyond his control, is not able to accept a foreign assignment at this time.

We appreciated getting these suggestions and regret that none of them are available as a reserve in case anything happens to prevent Mr. Moller's appointment. My letter of January 7 gave the status of Mr. Moller's recruitment as of that date. There is not much new to report since then. The forms requesting the recheck on his S and L clearance went forward to FOA on January 6. His biographical data were forwarded to FOA on January 7 and despatched by air pouch, letter dated January 20, from Mr. Taggart to Mr. Corson.

Frank Knapp advised us that he would be interested in this position, if Mr. Moller's appointment should not be effected. He was confident he has the required vigor, in spite of his age.

Unfortunately, Joe Leonard did not send in his S and L forms, requested on December 9, until early January. They went to FOA on January 7. We received TOUSFO 260, of January 12, giving him country clearance.

We were greatly surprised and extremely disappointed about the Verne Stewart incident. We assume that an airpar will be forwarded for his replacement. Meantime, we will do some tentative work on locating a suitable candidate.

All best wishes to yourself, Mrs. Edens, and the staff.

Sincerely yours,

cc: Harland J. Corson, Jidda

H. G. Bolster, Head,
Middle East Section

Ag Group (1

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
American Embassy - Jidda

January 25, 1954

Your Highness:

In compliance with your request when in your office yesterday, I am writing relative to the housing situation for our agricultural technicians who will be working with your specialists at Hofuf.

Present living quarters at the old experiment station near the Village of Hofuf consist of a building with two apartments. These apartments are occupied by employees of your Ministry. At the rear of the above building a structure of two rooms was built originally for office space. When Mr. Nixon, our date specialist, came out here last July, the Finance Ministry took steps to add a foyer, a kitchen, dining room, and bathroom. For some reason this was never done.

We now have two technicians available for work in the Al Hasa area, but there are no living quarters for them. Consequently it will be appreciated if you will have work resumed on the office building so that appropriate quarters will be available at the earliest date possible. Work now proposed at Hofuf will require that one of our technicians reside there continuously and other technicians will be coming and going as their services are needed. They could share the same quarters when ready.

I should appreciate hearing from you regarding this matter at your earliest convenience.

We wish to assure you of our desire to cooperate in all matters.

Please accept my respects.

Sincerely yours,

Harland J. Corson, Director
USA Operations Mission to Saudi Arabia

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul-Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Jidda

HJCorson:o

Ag Corresp

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

- JAN 22 1954

AIR MAIL

Dr. W. J. Edens
c/o American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Dear Dr. Edens:

The copies of reports, letters, etc. you have sent us, including the proposed plan of work for fiscal year 1955, the November report to Mr. Corson and your letter to Mr. Hyland of November 24, have been most helpful to us in USDA. Copies were sent to Dr. Aamodt, Mr. Hearne and Dr. Marston in Animal Industry, and others. These reports reflect a lot of good down-to-earth thinking and planning.

It is hoped that good water will continue to flow from the wells in Wadi Khulais. It is noted that Mr. Gibbs believes there are at least 2000 acres of good arable land in that community which can be utilized under proper management practices.

From time to time we have been sending you copies of developments in animal and poultry work in other Middle East countries, including feed development. It is hoped that Mr. Parker will maintain his contacts made during his visits to Iraq and Iran and likewise keep in close touch with the animal and poultry staff in Egypt. Dr. Marston and other animal and poultry men in USDA are following the work in the Middle East with great interest.

Dr. Aamodt is working assiduously with FOA and various stations in Texas, California, and Arizona on the beginning of seed production in the U. S. of five non-commercial species of grasses, including alkali sacaton (Sporoblus airoides). It is suggested that Mr. Schwan keep in close touch with Dr. Aamodt on these developments.

We saw Mr. Sadek Hussein two or three times recently when he was in Washington at the end of the waterspreading tour. Dr. Aamodt also worked closely with him.

Sincerely yours,

H. G. Bolster, Head,
Middle East Section

cc: Harland J. Corson, Jidda

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

January 17, 1954

Your Highness:

Enclosed you will find (1) a suggested list of personnel to fill head positions in Agriculture according to the recommended Organization Chart, (2) minimum formal training requirements, (3) experience that would seem necessary, and (4) a suggested number of employees to be recruited immediately, or throughout the first year as needed, to fill assistantship and other positions. I shall be glad to discuss further this matter should it be your desire, for the selection of key administrative and technical personnel is most important to a successful Ministry.

I have begun work on a suggested five-year program of work in agriculture in which Sayyid Ahmed Obaid stated you were interested. This should be considered very carefully and it will take some time.

Three project agreements, including the livestock experiment station, are now being translated to be forwarded to you. These three projects pertain to this fiscal year, and we should like to discuss and complete these agreements when the translations have reached you.

The Agriculture Division of USAOM is also ready to suggest and discuss work that you may want to include in your next budget. Furthermore, we shall be glad to assist any way we can concerning the Ministry budget.

We wish to assure you of our desire to cooperate in all matters.

Please accept my respects.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Enclosures -
As above

H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Abdul-Aziz
Minister of Agriculture
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Jidda

WJEdens:o

Ag

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

January 14, 1954

Dear Mr. Bolster:

I am so far behind with my correspondence, an apology is due to all.

Your letters of December 10, 17, 21, 22 and 24 with enclosures, pertaining to livestock and poultry feed problems, seeds, and personnel, are appreciated very much. Each technician has read these letters pertaining to his respective field. Your and Mr. Moncure's thoughtfulness and spirit of helpfulness have been very encouraging. When we get more assistance here, I shall be more prompt in replying to all communications.

Enclosed you will find some reports and a Royal Decree. You may have received these through the Director's office, but I doubt it since office machinery is still at a minimum. Men of the Agriculture Division pecked out their own reports. The Brief Agriculture Division Activity Report for 1953 was written primarily for the new Minister of Agriculture, although it was directed to Mr. Corson. I'll explain that some day when more time is available.

The December 23, 1953 report on observations and situations in the Khulais Community paints a vivid picture. I requested that Mr. Stewart obtain such information as a basis for further planning at Khulais. Stewart typed it himself, so please overlook errors. It is well that some of the boys can type.

Some interesting things are beginning to take place. I shall write to you regarding these within the near future.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

Enclosures -
As above

Mr. H. G. Bolster
Head, Middle East Division, FAS
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

TRANSLATION

No. 4

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Ministry of Agriculture

Date 8-5-73
(Jan. 13, 1954)

Director
U.S.A.O.M.
Jidda

Greetings:

I wish you would send to me immediately a statement of the amounts provided previously and at the present in the U.S.A.O.M. program in the name of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia pertaining to agriculture, water resources and branches related to them due to their necessity.

Please accept my regards.

/s/ Prince Sultan
Minister of Agriculture

ans 2/7

7.m.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

المملكة العربية السعودية
وزارة الزراعة

الرقم ٤
التاريخ ٨ ـ ٥
المشفوعات ١

المكرم رئيس بعثة النقطة الرابعة الامريكية بجدة

بعد التحية :

أرغب أن توافوني حالا ببيان المبالغ التي رصدت سابقا والمرصودة حاليا في برنامج (النقطة الرابعة) باسم المملكة العربية السعودية ـ الخاصة (بالزراعة) (والمياه) وما يتصل بهما من فروع نظرا للزوم الحاصل لها ـ وتقبلوا تحياتي ....

ـ ٨/ ٥/ ٣٧٣ هـ

وزير الزراعة

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

JAN 7 1959

AIR MAIL

Dr. William J. Edens
c/o American Embassy
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

Dear Dr. Edens:

This will acknowledge receipt of a copy of TOUSFO 239 of December 27 and will bring you up-to-date on the status of recruitment since my letter of November 12.

Billie H. Rountree (AG-11 Agronomist) left Washington January 5. With stopovers in Rome and Cairo, he was scheduled to arrive in Jidda January 15. He will most likely be on the job in Jidda before you receive this letter.

This leaves only two positions for which we are actively recruiting, namely, the two mentioned in TOUSFO 239 -- AG-3, Extension Specialist (Irrigated Farming) which is a replacement for "Tom" Moon, and AG-10 Irrigation Engineer.

Two positions, as you know, are still suspended for recruitment, namely AG-7 Entomologist and AG-12 Horticulturist.

The status of AG-3 and AG-10 is as follows:

AG-3 Extension Specialist (Irrigated Farming) -- Joe Leonard wired December 15, in response to the official contact letter from FAS personnel, "Am interested in Saudi Arabia assignment. Available 30 days notice." The forms required for initiating his security and loyalty clearance were received from him January 5. It has been taking from one to three months to get S and L clearances after the request is made. The S and L investigation is nearly always the most delaying factor.

Mr. Moon was placed on leave without pay for one year, effective December 2. This was done to enable him to get, at government facilities, the monthly X-rays recommended for him by Dr. Crane and the USPHS. This means that we have to have an overlapping activity authorization in order to complete Mr. Leonard's recruitment. However, this should be only a routine matter which we

believe will be effected soon. The Sand L clearance, as we said, will be the delaying factor. I fear it will not be earlier than May 1 that we can get Mr. Leonard over to Saudi Arabia.

AG-10 Irrigation Engineer -- James Turnbull, who was mentioned in my letter of November 12, declined this position in a telegram of November 16. We "scouted the woods" some more and finally "came up" with the name of John F. Moller, a civil engineer with the FHA state office in Bozeman, Montana. His biographical data has just gone forward through official channels. We are satisfied that Mr. Moller is well qualified for this position, in spite of the fact that he does not have a college degree. I hope you will agree. He is a licensed civil engineer in Montana. This, together with his 1½ years at Montana State and four years of study with the International Correspondence School in the field of Civil Engineering, seems equivalent to a degree. His Form 57 contains great detail of his work and responsibilities, much more than could be cabled, but we feel that if you could go over all of his file, including his reference letters, you would not hesitate to accept him.

Nevertheless, we are writing to Frank Knapp who was mentioned in a recent cable. (See enclosed copy). Mr. Knapp is 66 years old, which seems quite old for the rigors of Saudi Arabia and this position. However, should the Moller recruitment fall through for any reason, we would be happy to consider Mr. Knapp, if you do not feel he is too old.

We should further explain that Mr. Moller was cleared for S and L on August 12, 1952 and medically cleared July 17, 1952. These previous clearances would, with little doubt, assure us of a faster clearance on the recheck, than if we were starting "from scratch."

We have received an OK from FOA/W to reduce the FOA and FSI orientation from four weeks to one week in Mr. Moller's case. That means, with about two or three days in USDA, we should be able to get him out within ten days. Therefore, I think it is not too optimistic to set his ETA Jidda at March 1.

Filling this position has been one of our toughest assignments, but I believe we are over the top now.

Sincerely yours,

H. G. Bolster, Head,
Middle East Section

cc: Harland J. Corson, Jidda

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

January 4, 1954

AGRICULTURE DIVISION OBJECTIVES
FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE

The pressing need, at present, for an action program to improve agriculture in Saudi Arabia is the completion of discussions between the Ministry of Agriculture and the USA Operations Mission relative to project plans for the immediate future. Upon completion of these discussions and plans, project agreements may be signed which will set in motion a number of activities, some of which are herewith listed.

1. Begin construction of buildings and other facilities for a Livestock Experiment Station.

2. Make preparations to bring purebred livestock from southwestern United States to be used for breeding and foundation purposes, and to be distributed to rural communities.

3. Construct demonstration pit silos, one at Khulais and one at Hadda esh Shan.

4. Send Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Medina to the Dammam-Qatif area immediately to determine how soils may be better drained and how they may be better utilized for crop production. When this work has been completed, they should be sent to Hofuf to determine soil-crop adaptations and how irrigation water may be used to a better advantage to increase crop production.

5. Select crop experimental plots in the Khulais and Hofuf areas and begin the testing of seeds for local use. This will be followed by local seed production and the shipping in of seed that proves to be of value.

6. Encourage and assist in cleaning out wells in the Khulais community so that they will produce more water for irrigation.

7. Upon the arrival of an irrigation engineer, plan and construct means for utilizing water of drilled wells for irrigation. Farmers should be encouraged to install pumps where they are economically feasible.

8. If local facilities will permit, ship in several thousand baby chickens to be distributed at Khulais, at Hofuf, and possibly in Wadi Fatima. Proper feed will be a vital factor in this undertaking.

9. Begin making preparations at Hadda esh Shan to produce feed for livestock at the experiment station.

10. Select and establish at least three range demonstration plots in that many important grazing areas.

11. Initiate a continuous seed testing program to determine plants best adapted to range conditions.

12. Assist the Ministry of Agriculture with organization and functional problems.

W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:o

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

CHARGE:

Control: TOUSFO #250

DATE: Jan. 5, 1954

TO

TO: FOA/W

FOR: Agriculture

USFOTO A-41. March 26-April 8 satisfactory Alvin D. Ayres visit.

CORSON.

HJCorson
WJHdens/pa

Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

TELEGRAM Foreign Service of the United States of America

OUTGOING

UNCLASSIFIED

CHARGE: Classification Control:

DATE: Jan. 5, 1954

TO: American Consul, Dhahran

FROM: Corson USACM/SA

#237

George Gibbs will arrive Dhahran January 6 Saudi Airlines.

Desires use of guest room. Inform Barham.

[redacted]

JOHNS

HJCorson
WJIdema:o

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 - 220210

USA OPERATIONS MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
Jidda

January 4, 1954

AGRICULTURE DIVISION OBJECTIVES
FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE

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W. J. Edens
Chief, Agriculture Division

WJEdens:o

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OM AL QURA NEWSPAPER - #1496 dated January 1, 1954.

ROYAL DECREE
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND
THE ASSIGNMENT OF H.R.H. PRINCE SULTAN BIN
ABDUL AZIZ TO BE IN CHARGE OF THIS MINISTRY

No. 5/21/1/1951
date Rabie' al Thani 18, 1373 - December 24, 1953.

We, Saud Bin Abdul Aziz Bin Abdulrahman al Faisal al Saud,
King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

With the help of God almighty, and in accordance with the requirements of public interests, we order the following:

First: The establishment of special Ministry under the name of "Ministry of Agriculture";

Second: Pursuant to this order, Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz shall be appointed Minister of Agriculture;

Third: The Minister of Agriculture shall handle all affairs in connection with the agricultural matters in the Kingdom and the development of agriculture up to the level suitable to the country.

Fourth: The agencies concerned shall execute this order.

Saud.